INDEPENDENT



Something for the weekend, sir

The new male contraceptive

INSIDE TODAY'S NEW-LOOK SECTION TWO

New clubs for the ageing groovers



Bridget Jones's diary

WEDNESDAY 3 APRIL 1996 40p (1R 45p)



Major makes pledge on referendum

Rift with Chancellor is healed

DONALD MACINTYRE

The Cabinet will today agree a formal promise not to enter a single currency in the next Parliament without a referendum after a potentially explosive split over the issue was re-solved by John Major and the Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke.

Mr Clarke yesterday finally gave his assent to an agreement under which the Cabinet would make it clear that any decision to join a single currency would be put to the British people in a referendum.

The deal reached between the Prime Minister and the Chancellor left ministers confident last night that today's discussion of the issue would easily reach agreement on what is regarded by several as an essential means of uniting the party in the run-up to the general

Downing Street resolutely refused last night even to confirm that the issue would be discussed today, let alone that a deal had been reached. But under the agreement the Cabinet will make it clear that unlike in the 1975 referendum on EEC membership called by Harold Wilson, the Cabinet will be forced to accept collective re-

sponsibility. That means that senior Eurosceptic ministers would have to resign from the Cabinet if they wanted the freedom to campaign for a "no" vote in a referendum. In 1975 ministers were given licence by the then Labour Prime Minister to campaign according to their personal opinion.

John Major last night sent out a Foreign Office paper detailing options on how a referendum could be called in the event of a Cabinet decision in favour of a single currency.

Senior Cabinet ministers including Mr Major, Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, Malcolm Rifkind, the



Kenneth Clarke (above) and Michael Heseltine: In close



Clarke, - who is strongly opposed to such a pledge - were in close contact amid continuing efforts to reach a deal.

Mr Rifkind was among those strongly pressing for a decision at today's Cabinet and during intensive talks yesterday Mr Clarke is understood to bave been assured by Mr Major that he would continue to leave open the question of British EMU membership in the next Parliament. It is also expected to be made clear that the referendum pledge is only in-tended to apply in the next Conservative Party for what resign in order to campaign for

stances after another election. Mr Clarke, with some backing from Mr Hescltine, was worried that the move was one of a continuing series of concessions to Euro-sceptics which might well not end with a referendum pledge. Such fears have been increased by evident worries among some Tory strategists about the electoral threat posed by Sir James Gold-smith's Referendum Party.

But Mr Major is understood to have made clear in a number of conversations with the Chancellor that the move was not part of a process which would threaten the carefully agreed truce on Europe agreed be-tween both wings of the party. Efforts are also expected to be made by Downing Street to en-sure that Mr Clarke is not seen as baving suffered a blow to his prestige by having overcome his opposition to a referendum.

Gordon Brown, the shadow Chancellor, said last night as reports of the deal began to cir-culate in Westminster: "This is one more example of the Prime Minister caving in to pressure. everyone knows this decision has nothing to do with the interests of the country and everything to do with holding toether a divided grating party."

One possibility which had been canvassed among some ministers was for a formula which would closely follow Labour's terms by saying that the Government would seek popular assent for any decision to join a single currency either through a general election or a referendum. But today's statement is likely to make clear that any decision to join a single currency would be followed by a referendum

John Redwood, the leading Tory Euro-sceptic, said last night he would be "quite satisfied with a stipulation that Cabinet ministers opposed to the Parliament and not to bind the single currency would have to could be different circum a "no" vote in a referendum.

have the stomach to bring the killers to trial? 9

6 It is a crime too great to hide, but do we



Murder trail: Human remains in the village of Konjevic Polje, one of 10 suspected mass graves under investigation in eastern Bosnia Photograph: A

War crimes investigators yesterday began the search for evidence to support charges of genocide against Bosnian Serb leaders, amid signs that at least one mass grave has been violated recently in order to cover up evidence.

Despite the best efforts of those who would bury a crime too great to hide, the evidence of mass murder is there. It remains only to be seen whether the international community has the stomach to bring the murderers to trial.

A large section of earth has been freshly turned at one site suspected of housing the re-mains of more than 600 Muslim men who were executed after the fall of the town of Srebrenica in eastern Bosnia in July. The rest of the ground at the site, known as Sahinici One, shows old vehicle tracks and earthen mounds covered with young grass.

Nato's peace implementation force, I-For, has refused to



Emma Daly entered the killing fields of Bosnia yesterday. At a mass grave near Zvornik, she found a vain attempt to cover up the slaughter

secure the areas suspected of housing mass graves, saying it is not a military task. 1-For officials said they had no evidence of tampering at any site, despite reporters' accounts of interference at more than one alleged grave. Yesterday, spokesmen refused to discuss the issue.

David Rohde, the only journalist known to have visited Sahinici One, shortly after the alleged killings, said yesterday that the remains he saw in the area last year, including clothing, spectacles, shoes and walking sticks, had been removed. "Seventy per cent of the larger

of the smaller one," Mr Rohde said. "All of the jackets have gone, and all of the canes."

A six-man team from the International Criminal Tribunal on the former Yugoslavia has begun to survey the sites in search of evidence to support witnesses' reports and surveillance photos, which suggest Bosnian Serbs massacred at teast 3,000 Muslims from Srebrenica and huried in them in at least 11 mass graves.

General Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzie, the Bosnian Serb leaders, have been indicted by the tribunal for genocide grave has been dug up, and half and crimes against humanity

over the disappearance from Srebrenica of several thousand Muslims. At least 8,000 people from the enclave have been registered as missing.

the inbunal team, refused to give details of the group's acsites. It is not expected to exhume bodies for the time being., as experts say digging up bodics is of little use unless investigators have a list of potential names and detailed descrip-

tions to match the remains. US troops will provide "area security" for the tribunal, said Colonel John Batiste, the Nato commander in the area.

"They will not exhume remains. They will not investigate suspected atrocity sites. *We will not guard sites, ev-

idence or suspected war crim-Jean-Rene Ruez, leader of inals. We will not be involved in witness protection. Sorb soldiers are suspected of tivities. But the team will start by surveying and marking the where in Bosnia. But tribunal

sources have said the testimony of witnesses and survivors. along with photographs, provides compelling evidence.

Opening the graves is vital to the families of those who are missing. Exhuming and identifying bodies is one of the few ways they will know wbother their relatives are dead or alive. Serb killing fields, page 10

Labour MPs defy Blair on terrorism Act

COLIN BROWN and JASON BENNETTO

14:37 15:45

Tony Blair last night suffered the biggest backbench revolt since he became leader of the Labour Party when 31 Labour MPs re-belied over the Government's decision to rush through Parliament emergency measures to combat terrorism.

The Labour MPs defied an appeal by Shadow Home Secretary Jack Straw to abstain over giving the police new powers to stop and search for terrorist devices such as small bombs. There are no civil rights which

can be exercised from the graveyard," he said.

After registering their protest at the speed with which the Pre-vention of Terrorism (Additional Powers) Bill was being whipped through Parliament. the Labour MPs were threatening to delay the passage of the tegistation with a series of 21 amendments to protect the civil rights of those stopped. Mr Straw assured his back-

benchers that the Labour leadership's decision to give the legislation a fair wind through the threatened all-night sitting was based on security briefings with Michael Howard, the Home Secretary.

David Veness, Assistant Commissioner, of Scotland Yard met Mr Straw on Monday to warn him of the likely threat of further IRA attacks. The Security Service is understood to have warned that the Easter period could be used by the IRA to mark the 80th anniversary of the the Easter Uprising in Dublin, the rebellion against

The Independent has learned that senior police officers and Home Office officials have

about additional powers to stop and search terrorist suspects for up to 18 months before the IRA ceasefire was broken. It was only after the Docklands bomb exploded on 9 February that chief constables made an application to the Home Secretary for new

legislation.

Aides of Mr Blair last night mounted a damage-limitation exercise, playing down the Labour rebellion as a protest against the Government for its decision to rush the legislation through without consultation. But there were rumblings of disbeen in low-level discussions content from some Labour MPs

about the Blair leadership bowing to the Government. Many of the MPs were among the 25 who last month broke ranks by voting against the renewal of the controversial Prevention of Terrorism Act.

The MPs, led by Max Madden, the MP for Bradford West, and Kevin McNamara, the former Labour spokesman on Northern Ireland, were planning to force the Commons to sir fate into the night over the amendments, which include a provision to make the emergency laws expire within four months of coming into force.





IN BRIEF

Hospital death probe Police are investigating the deaths of four patients in a Newcastle hospital after a nurse was Page 3

Charities get political A new political force backed by several of Britain's charities has been launched. Page 2

Today's weather Dry and bright with good sunny Section two, page 29



Mystery as head of Woolwich resigns The society was anxious to chief executive of the society on to end the Woolwich's 150 years

The head of the Woolwich building society, which is planning a £3 billion stock market flotation, resigned tonight after an emergency board meeting.

The society said Peter Robinson was standing down as group chief executive just three months after he took over the post, but refused to comment on the reasons.

A spokeswoman said that former chief executive Donald Kirkham would take over as head of the society until a replacement could be found. She added the Woolwich's plans for vears before Mr Robinson's a flotation and conversion to a appointment, was an opponent bank "remained on track".

BUSINESS 19-23 COMMENT 16.17 CROSSWORD 28 GAZETTE 18

OBITUARIES 18 SHARES 22 SWRT 25-28 UNIT TRUSTS 23

LEADING ARTICLES 16 LETTERS 16 NEWS ANALYSIS 15

Sir Brian Jenkins, the socibe appropriate for him or Mr comment.

City speculation of a boardroom row at the country's third largest society had been mounting during the afternoon. Mr Robinson, 54, who was

born in Bexleyheath, southeast London, where the society is headquartered, was seen as the driving force behind the flotation plans whereas Mr Kirkham, chief executive for 10 of conversion.

ety's chairman, said it would not stress the flotation would still go ahead. Sir Brian stressed: "The Robinson to make any further normal business of the society is entirely unaffected. The society's assets and members'

funds remain unimpaired. "The board has the full confidence in the continuing management of the society under Donald Kirkham, pending the appointment of a new group chief executive."

Rob Thomas, building society analyst at merchant bank UBS, said: "I don't think this will upset the flotation Mr Robinson took over as pointment he announced plans sion plan.

section

TWO

countant.

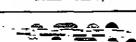
son's departure, after a hurriedly-called emergency board meeting, was almost as rapid as the pace of the change be brought to the society.

1 January, and 10 days later an- as a mutual society and float it nounced he would be taking the on the Stock Exchange. Consociety to the stock market. version to a bank was a personal There had been speculation project for Mr Robinson. that Mr Robinson, who started

Mr Robinson believed there was no future for mutuality afout a management trainee, had ter the Abbey National, Chelnot found the relationship easy tenham & Gloucester, Halifax, with Sir Brian, a former Lord Mayor of London and City ac-Leeds, Alliance & Leicester and National & Provincial The manner of Mr Robinall announced they were con-

More than 3.5 million of the society's members will receive a share handout worth an average of £800 each if the Within 11 days of his apsociety succeeds in its conver-

ARTS 6 BRIDGET JONES 5 CHESS 27 CROSSWORD 30 FINANCE 17,18 LAW 23,24 LISTINGS 28,29 MONEY 13-16 THEATRE 7.8 TV & RADIO 31.32 WEATHER 29





BREWED BY THE CHARLES WELLS FAMILY BREWERY, BEDFORDSHIRE, EST. 1876,





Labour's prefects assume air of responsibility amid the rabble

Few things depress the spirit as much as the sight of the Labour front bench succumbing to another fit of responsibility. From parliamentary dawn (2.30pm) to sketch-writers' dusk (5.00pm) the only thing Labour frontbenchers were passionate about was their own enormous moderation and common sense.

Defence questions showed why they do it. The Tories could be as appalling as they liked. Robert Atkins, one of the greatest shouters and organisers of



stood to ask ministers to condemn the BBC's Panorama programme for "making trou-hle" between Britain and one of between Britain and one of

its "closest friends and allies" -Saudi Arabia. The Secretary of State for Michael Portillo's head jerked forwards and then back again in gigantic assent, almost as though some invisible headsman had just pricked his spine. "Jobs, jobs", shouted Keith Mans (former Vulcan pilot) at Labour members who dared shake their heads at the idea that an Islamic theocracy should effectively hold a British

government to ransom. Peter Butler (Milton Keynes North East) then asked James Arbuthnot, a junior defence

minister, to condemn the Transport Union's resolution calling for defence cuts. Would this not mean a policy whereby we would "not be able to defend the nation" if attacked? "It would be rather worse than that," the old Etonian replied. Really? Worse? You mean we would be unable to defend the nation even if not attacked? "And Labour conference after conference has voted for this policy", he squeaked. In vain did David Clark, for Labour, seek

that when it came to the security of the country all would be safe in Tony Blair's hands.

· Just how safe became apparent later, when discussion turned to the strange Bill that the Government was rushing through yesterday, allowing more powers to the police.

Labour's shadow Home Secretary, Jack Straw, had been given a secret briefing and alerted to a threat that required urgent action. He and his colleague, Ann Taylor, the shadow Leader of the House, had to explain why they were prepared to go along

given the principal factor in the unseemly haste appeared to be . the unexpected appearance of the Easter recess at roundabout Easter time, coinciding with the unforeseeable 80th anniversary of the Dublin East-

er Rising. But few wear responsibility with more gravitas than Mr Smaw and Ms Taylor. They are respectively like the head-boy and head girl at a strict coeducational comprehensive school. They understand that

do all they can to help. It was : sad but essential - when the beak told them what was rethat view". When her own backbencher, Dale Campbell-Savours, suggested to her that one should never rush legislation that impacted upon civil liberties, she replied that there ing never". But presumably never any in saying always. So it was left to Liberal De-

with such a rushed piece of leg-running the school is a hard job, mocrat Alan Beith to demure. islation. This would not be easy, and in return for a badge will. And very well he did it. He de-And very well be did it. He dehurry and about the idea that there had been no alternative. quired, said Ms Taylor they Although actually, he admitted, "had not demured (sic) from some action might be necessary. This brought laughter from the prefects on Labour's front bench. Mr. Beith hit back, 1virtues of what they wish to carwere "always difficulties in say- 17 out, and the procedures they use to carry it out". True, but this close to an election the ends nearly always justify the means.

mured about the motives for the gretting that Labour "could see no difference between the

The quality of life: Creation of new jobs, a Bill of Rights and environmental protection at centre of programme

to reassure the House that this

was not now Labour's stance;

Real World presents blueprint for change

NICHOLAS SCHOON

A new political force backed by several of Britain's biggest charities and pressure groups was launched yesterday, in the hope of transforming the forthcoming general election campaign.

he Real World coalition wants £1hn a year spent on joh creation in deprived areas of Britain, a doubling of UK overseas aid, a 10 per cent cut in road traffic and a Bill of Rights enshrining the rights of the cit-

The new alliance, whose 32 members include Oxfam, Friends of the Earth. Christian Aid and the World Wide Fund for Nature, has ideas about taxation as well as expenditure. It wants employers' National Insurance contributions to be replaced by charges on pollution and the use of natural resources, and higher taxes

Jonathon Porritt. the enviing part in organising the coalition, said one of its main themes was that "quality of life is more than the material stan-

dard of living". Real World's supporters all shared concerns that societies in Britain and the rest of the world were becoming increasingly unequal, that the environment was being irreversibly damaged, that Britain's parliamentary system was undemocratic and Britons were forced to "bow down to unaccountable

At the 1992 General Election these linked issues "were wiped off the agenda", said Mr Porritt. The mainstream politicians and the media concentrated on the UK economy, taxation and internal party feuding. The coalition's founding statement says:
"People instinctively know that British politics is not addressing the problems of the real

Mr Porritt, a former director of Friends of the Earth, told a ress conference in London hat Real World would never field candidates at an election - the charitable status of many of its members forbade that. Nor could it endorse any party or parliamentary candidate.

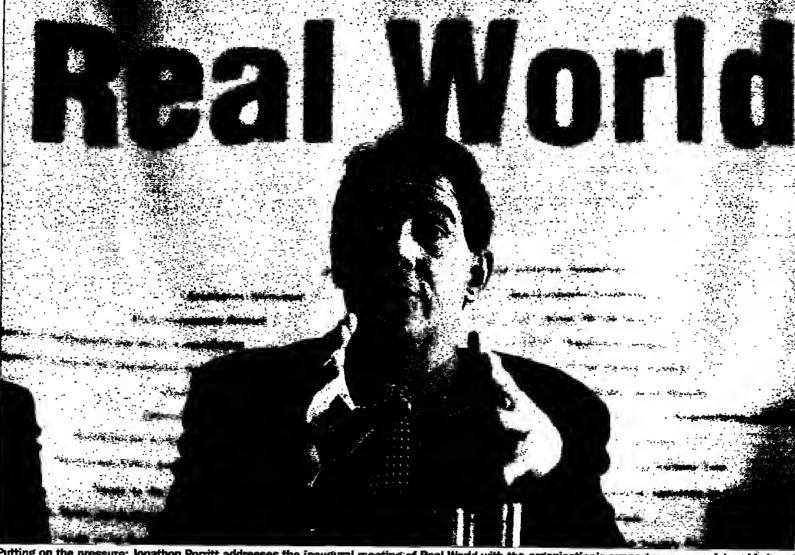
But it would lobby hard to influence the content of the manifestos of all of the parties, then scrutinise and comment on those manifestos when they were published.

Mr Porritt did not rule Real World out of buying advertising ronmentalist who played a lead- space in newspapers during the campaign. But he made it clear ing which Sir James Goldsmith is pumping into press advertisements for his new Referendum Party.

The coalition also launched a paperback book, The Politics of the Real World, which sets out its critique and aims, as well as a 12-point action programme for the next government.

In addition to charity giants like Save the Children, it includes well-known pressure groups like Charter 88 and

You don't have to be a Direct Line customer to apply for a Personal Loan.



Putting on the pressure: Jonathon Porritt addresses the inaugural meeting of Real World with the organisation's supporters, some pictured below-

Transport 2000, the anti-road protesters Alarm UK, and a dozen little-known groups such as the Media Natura Trust, Together, all 32 have more than 2

Labour's environmental protection spokeswoman, Joan Ruddock, said: "I would very much support this initiative linking social inequity and the environment - the Labour Party has nothing to fear from this." The Green Party condemned Real World as a "pale green ini-tiative". Both Mr Porritt and Sarah Parkin, another Real World founder, were once leading lights in the Green Party but became disillusioned.





Robin Pullen: Director of the





of Charter 88

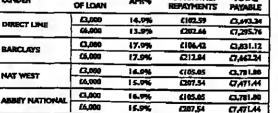
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Payments by media 'put justice at risk'

WILL BENNETT

Payment by the media of witnesses in court cases "could put judges warned yesterday as they gave their reasons for refusing the serial killer Rosemary West leave to appeal.

eave to appeal.

Lord Taylor, the Lord Chief Justice, and two colleagues said: "In our view the whole is sue of media payments to win nesses requires to be reviewed. - whether they should be prohibited, or, if allowed, at what stage of criminal proceedings, and with what, if any, control It is not for us to answer those questions." They said, however, that they did not believe the buying up of witnesses in the West case had affected the jury and added: "The evidence in its

totality was overwhelming". The judges' remarks are certain to he noted by those carrying out the investigation into cheque-book journalism ordered by the Lord Chancellor, after West was convicted last November of 10 murders.

Lord Wakeham, chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, said he would study carefully the appeal judges comments. "In my speech to the House of Lords last December, I in-

dicated that the best way for-

ward was for there to be a protocol to the voluntary code of conduct of the press," he said. "The newspaper and maga-zine publishing industry is now considering those proposals ... I believe it is very important that the progress we have made in the last year in self-regulation should be allowed to continue."

CHARLES ARTHU

ered in the United Kingdom, as the hard bargaining among European agriculture ministers over the heef crisis continued late last night.

There still appears to be confusion within the Government over how many people may have the suspected "new strain" of the illness, but a 42year-old businessman is suspected to have died from CJD on Sunday, after being in a coma since last year. And it emerged last night that a 27-year-old is also suspected of having developed the disease. Both cases are unusual, because past forms of CJD have typically struck peo-

ple with an average age of 63. At the meeting in Luxembourg yesterday, European ministers agreed to open the doors of European Union cold stores to up to 50,000 tonnes of British beef which consumers are shunning in the shops. But hopes of an early lifting of the world-wide han on heef exports faded amid demands for much tougher action from the

Government to stamp out BSE. The latest victim Ken Sharp, 42, a husinessman from Childwall, Liverpool, died in Walton Neurological Centre after falling ill in April last year. The newest suspect case has not been named. The victim's family approached the CID Victim Support Unit, a self-help group offering assistance and advice to people and families with the disease . but requested that no



details about the case other than the age be given out.

In February, Anna Pearson, 29-year-old solicitor, died from what doctors believe was CJD. A further case in a young person would be strong grounds to suspect that there is a link between beef products infected with mad cow disease, or BSE, and the latest cases of CID, which appear to strike victims at a younger age than the standard form, which was first identified in the 1920s.

Two weeks ago, the inde-pendent committee of experts advising the Government on BSE and CJD said that the best explanation for 10 cases of the "new strain" of CJD in 1994 and 1995 was exposure to BSEinfected beef products before 1989, when stricter controls on meat processing were introduced. Last week the committee's leader, John Pattison, said that there were another two suspected cases of the new strain of CJD under investigation. But the Department of Health could not say yesterday whether Mr Sharp or the 27-year-old were among those two. A

spokesman did say that Ms Pearson was an additional case. Yesterday no one at the CJD Surveillance Unit in Edinburgh, which investigates all suspected cases in the UK, was able to say either how many confirmed deaths there had been so far this year from the disease, or how

many had been referred.

Staff at the unit said that only its director, Rob Will, or medical director, James Ironside, could release such information. However, both Dr Will and Dr Ironside are abroad at present, the latter at a two-day international session of the World Health Organisation in Geneva which is examining possible links between CJD and BSE. In Luxembourg, most ministers dismissed Britain's plan to incinerate the carcasses of 4.7 million older dairy cows as falling far short of what is needed to get the trade boycott lifted. They were demanding in addition a slaughter and incineration programme to target productive beef and dairy herds where outbreaks of mad cow disease had been detected, or animals which might have been exposed to the BSE agent even though they show no clinical signs of the disease. Such a

production. Britain wants 80 per cent of slaughter costs to be met by Brussels, but a majority of ministers felt that the EU should pay 70 per cent at the most. Plans being considered last night would also limit the Brussels contribution to compensating farmers who lose livestock while the incineration and disposal costs would have to be borne in full by the

move could hit Britain's milk

1,000 have designs on new £2 coin

IN BRIEF

A swan, a lottery ball, Stone-henge and a sliced loaf of bread are among the design propos-als for the new £2 coin in the national competition to find a symbol of British identity.
The Royal Mint has had more than 1,000 applications for the

competition which closed yesterday and the most popular themes for the design of the coin to be launched next year emerged as maps, animals. birds, buildings and transport. The winner of the competition will receive £10,000 and their initials will be included on the coin. A committee, chaired by the Duke of Edinburgh, will pick the final design in the

Terrorism arrest

A 31-year-old Frenchman was arrested under the Prevention of Terrorism Act in north London yesterday and was being held at an undisclosed police station in the capital his understood he was arrested in connection with terrorism against French targets:

Morning glory

A rare watercolour by JMW Turner - one of only two panoramic portraits of London by the artist - sold for almost £75,000 at auction yesterday. The picture, London: Autumnal Morning, went to a telephone hidder at Christie's, exceeding the expected price tag between £40,000 and £60,000.

Last stand at bypass

The remaining protesters at the Newbury bypass made a final stand as they were evicted yesterday from their makeshift homes. Seventeen people were arrested as the last two camps - Tot Hill and Castle Camp - fell to bailiffs.

Policeman accused

A senior police officer is to bearing later this month accused of indecently assaulting a teenage girl arrested for shoplifting at a police station. The Kent inspector, who is not being named for legal reasons, faces the hearing on April 26 and has been suspended pending an internal investigation.

'Spy book' ruling

Vice Chancellor Sir Richard Scott has reserved judgment in the High Court over whether Russian spy George Blake should pay back £90,000 he made from his book on his life as an MI6 agent. If the case goes in favour of Attorney General Sir Nicholas Lyell, it could mean that any Crown servant will be sued for the profits of their autobiographies if they do not seek permission to publish.

Harrods bid fails

Top store Harrods has failed in a second court attempt to force The Harrodian School, in south west London, to change its name. Three Court of Appeal judges, by a 2-1 majority, upheld a ruling by Mr Justice Harman in the High Court two years ago that in the absence of any common field of activity there was no likelihood of confusion in the minds of the public.

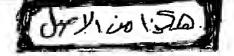
In the market

Korean car giant Daewoo wiil set up a showroom at a Sainsbury's Savacentre at London Colney, just off the M25, believed to be the first time a car firm and a supermarket have linked up to sell vehicles.

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Dawn

raid on

child

porn

A huge police operation was launched yesterday against what is believed to be one of the country's largest child pornog-

Thousands of videos showing

child sex, photographs, magazines and computer discs were

seized in at least 35 dawn raids

by 21 police forces in England.

Wales and Scotland. They are

believed to have included pic-

tures of an elderly man with

naked boys as young as eighl. Much of the material seized

under Operation Aurora is helieved to have been filmed

abroad in Thailand and Scan-

dinavia. Several people were ar-

derstood to have been uncov-

ered last November following

the arrest of a man by West

Mercia police. Address books

and correspondence recovered

are believed to have listed

pornographers around the

The raids were the culmina-

tion of four months' planning by

the West Mercia force and the

West Midlands commercial vice

unit. It follows growing concern

about the availability of child

pornography, particularly from

photograph quality computer

out as far afield as Devon and

Cornwall, Lincolnshire, South

In the West Midlands two

people were arrested and up to

100 videos and copying equip-

ment was recovered. One per-

son was arrested and material

was also seized during four

raids in London. About 300

videos were uncovered and

Wales and Strathchyde.

Yesterday's raid were carried

and literature.

The suspected vice ring is un-

rested and questioned.

age will

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Police in hospital deaths inquiry

Nurse dismissed after four patients die in intensive care unit

JAMES CUSICK

Police are investigating the deaths of four patients, including two girls aged 12 and 15, in the adult intensive care ward of ja Newcastle upon Tyne hospitalfollowing the dismissal of a nurse sacked for "gross misconduct". All four patients who died had at one time heen under the care of the nurse now under investigation.

Northumbria police, called in by the coroner to conduct a full inquiry, are examining hospital records going back to 1991. Jim Cousins, MP for New-

castle Central, yesterday called for a public inquiry into the management of the intensive care unit at the Royal Victoria Infirmary. "We are clearly talking ahout extremely grave events which have occurred over a long period of time," he said, Mr Cousins added that if matters now involved the criminal law, why was it left to the coroner's office to bring in the police? "Why did the hospital trust not raise the alarm sooner if they had suspicions?"

Northumbria police con-firmed a team of 12 detectives, headed by Detective Superintendent John Renwick is investigating the deaths.

The nurse, in her late 30s, worked at the Royal Victoria Infirmary for 17 years before being sacked at a full disciplinary hearing last month. She had already been suspended for a month after an internal inquiry questioned her professional conduct relating to four deaths in the ITU between 1991 and 1995. The police said yesterday they would interview the nurse this week once initial inquiries were completed.

A force spokeswoman said relatives of three patients were being contacted, but one of the patients has yet to be identified. All four were from the North-east. Like many intensive care units, both the infirmary's adult and paediatric intensive care wards were said by one senior medical source in Newcastle to be under "a great deal of pressure". A hospital spokes-woman said the two girls who died would normally have been admitted to the children's ITU. they had been moved to the

adult unit "hecause of the na-

ture of their injuries". The patients who died in the ITU also included a 69-year-old woman and a middle aged man. Relatives of the dead 15-yearold, Pairicia Dryden, from Bhyth, said yesterday they had "been through hell" hut were now facing another nightmare asking themselves could Patricia have lived?

Patricia's uncle, John Dryden. confirmed police had told the family they were investigating "irregularities in procedures in the intensive care unit". His niece had died after a gas aerosol she had been sniffing had ignited and exploded in her face. The burns she sustained were said to be "extreme".

Concerns over the nurse's conduct were raised at the beginning of this year by another nurse who worked in the unit. Although not confirmed by the hospital authorities or the police, it is understood there were concerns over the removal of treatment for some seriously ill patients, and that in one case a drip feed was turned off without appropriate authority from the physician in charge.

Following an internal inquiry at the infirmary, during which the nurse was suspended, a disciplinary hearing was scheduled for March. The nurse, and the staff member who first alerted the hospital authorities, were both represented at the hearing by counsel from the Royal College of Nursing.

According to the Comner's Office in Newcastle, the coroner, Leonard Coyle, was telephoned by the hospital's solicitor shortly after the sacking. On learning the alleged facts behind the dismissal, Mr Coyle called in the Northumbria police to carry out a full inves tigation. After her dismissal, the nurse lodged an immediate ap-peal. The RCN said yesterday: 'We will not be representing the nurse at her appeal, but will offer legal representation if she needs it at a later date."

Police inquiries will include interviewing hospital staff and relatives of the patients. Medical records have been obtained by a court order granted by Judge Maurice Carr under the Police and Criminal Evidence Act.

Cola wars: Relaunch aims to colour customer judgement in battle of the brands



Blue is the colour: Andre Agassi, Claudia Schiffer and Concorde at yesterday's Pepsi relaunch in a hangar at Gatwick Photograph: Geraint Lewis

Pepsi unveils its £300m bolt from the blue

GLENDA COOPER

Five hundred bewildered onlookers were herded on to trains and shoved through dark corridors yesterday to a secret destination, ending up in a deserted aircraft hangar. They were observers in the

latest war between two global giants seeking international domination. Project Blue, kept under wraps for nearly two years, was finally unveiled. It was not a defence briefing

or the launch of the latest sophisticated long-range missile. The massed ranks of journalists from 30 countries had been brought together to witness changing the colour of its can from white and red to blue.

With supermarket own brands and newcomer Virgin Cola threatening to squeeze the market, the relaunch in a secluded part of Gatwick Airport was planned with military precision. At present, Pepsi says its

market share for carbonated drinks in Britain is 12.2 per cent. compared with 32.7 per cent for Coca-Cola, while Virgin Cola introduced in November 1994 has already gained 7.5 per cent.

Foremost in the hype are two supermodels, Claudia Schiffer and Cindy Crawford, and tennis star Andre Agassi. And if cola wars have been previous-Pepsi spending £300m on ly fought on land, Pepsi's re-

launch yesterday took the battle not only to the skies by painting a Concorde blue at an estimated cost of £100,000, hut also to space with a message from Russian cosmonauts on the Mir station.

The decision to change the colour to blue was taken after research in Bahrain where consumers saw it as more modern and trendy; a pilot study led to a 9 per cent increase in sales.

Richard Brandt of Landor Associates, designer of the new can, said blue had been chosen "because it tends to be most people's favourite colour". He went on: "It's a futuristic colour, it's all about innovation and competition. It's the choice of a new generatioo . . . I know it's the colour of the Conservative Party but this is totally different." Perma-tans and perma-

smiles were much in evidence with executives assuring consumers that drinking new blue Pepsi - only the can has changed - equalled living on the edge and changing the script.

But marketing experts were unimpressed. Sean Brierley, deputy editor of Marketing Week, said the change was a gimmick. "Pepsi are making out this is a real Promethean effort, but cans have their design changed constantly. And the amount of money they are spending ... The cola market is constantly thinking in the short term now. Sales station last year."

may go up for a month, but we should look at what's happening in a year's time." Pepsi's competitors remained

publicly unruffled. A spokes-woman for Virgin said: "If Pepsi are throwing money at changing the colour of a can that's a move of desperation. We're choosing to put money into new product development.

Louise Terry, of Coca-Cola, said: "We're fighting the hattle on a different scale. I think from our viewpoint we need to make people huy more soft drinks rather than tea, coffee or squash. We outself Pepsi by three to one. And by the way we sent cola cans up to the Mir

three people were arrested in Devon and Cornwall. All the material seized will be collated and examined by the paedophile unit of the Nation-

al Criminal Intelligence Service. Detective Chief Inspector Martin Kitson, from West Mercia, which co-ordinated the raids, added: "The operation once again shows the commit ment of the police service to comhating child pornography and stopping the production and distribution of such material nationwide."

This is the latest operation soldiers fired guns to frighten against a suspected national network. Last June 11 men were arrested and hundreds of obscene pictures seized in a international police operation against child pornography on the Internet. Nine people in England and Scotland were questioned and 17 computers confiscated during raids that targeted about 40 people in America, Canada, Hong Kong,

Germany and South Africa. Two men yesterday admitted involvement in a child pornog-Birmingham Crown Court

raphy library run on the Net. was told that Alban Fellows, 26. a university researcher at Birmingham University, ran the service, while Stephen Arnold, 24, of Milton Keynes, supplied

some of the material. The pair, who initially denied charges under the Protection of Children Act and the Obscenc Publications Act of distributing child pornography through the Internet, changed their pleas after the judge ruled a computer disk computer could be classed

as a photograph and distributed. The case was adjourned for pre-sentencing reports.

Prophets of doom see dark side of moon

CHARLES ARTHUR Science Correspondent

Believers in astral portents of doom can get a double dose of worries tonight not only is there a comet, but the full moon will be eclipsed for four hours, start-

ing at 10.20pm. A lunar eclipse, caused when the moon moves into the shadow cast in space by the Earth, occurs about three times a year,

hut tonight's is one of the best for years in terms of visibility in Britain.

"It's very fortunate, in that the circumstances of timing mean the full eclipse will happen at around midnight," said Jacqueline Mitton of the Royal Astronomical Society. "That means the moon will be high in the sky, so the effect will be greater." In the US, for example, the effect will be minimal

hecause the moon will still be low in the sky there.

During the eclipse, which will continue until about 2am on Thursday, the moon may appear to turn copper or orange, or hlack out altogether. The colouring effect is caused by the sun's rays being bent by the Earth's atmosphere. The effect can be seen with the naked eye. Meanwhile, the comet

Hyakutake - another harbinger

of misfortune, according to some-will still be visible in the north-west sky. The comet is fading now and is lower in the sky than it was, but the eclipse will make it easier to see.

The sight of the moon "turning to hlood" instilled fear and dread into ancient peoples. In biblical days, a lunar eclipse was believed to have heralded the death of King Herod, while in ancient Japan men would lie on

what they thought was a mon-key eating the moon. Lunar eclipses first helped as-

tronomers to work out that the Moon and Earth moved in etliptical, rather than circular,

the ground and howl like dogs

As recently as 1974, 16 peo-

ple were killed in the Cambo-

dian capital, Phnom Penh, when

to ward off its evil effects.

Hendrix women

NICOLE VEASH

Two former girlfriends of the legendary Sixties guitarist Jimi Hendrix faced each other in the High Court yesterday in a dispute over their memories of the star, who died 26 years ago. Kathy Etchingham, who split

with Hendrix in 1969 after a 30 month relationship, wants Mr Justice French to take action against her former rival, German-horu Monika Danneman. for alleged contempt of court.

Miss Etchingham, 49, has moved far from the psychedel-ic days of the late 1960s. Now married to a doctor and a mother of two, she claims Miss Danneman, 48, is in breach of a legal promise she gave in 1992 not to repeat an allegation that she was an "inveterate liar". The undertaking was part of the set-tlement of a libel action over Miss Danneman's memoirs, The Inner Life of Jimi Hendrix, published in 1991.

The allegations of Miss Etchingham's relationship with Hendrix included claims that she would cheat and he for money and stole the rock star's belongings. The claims resurfaced last year with the publication of Miss Danneman's book to coincide with the 25th anniversary of Hendrix's death.

The dispute first took off in

the 1970s when Etchingham told the News of the World Hendrix was a "viotent, hard drinking, drugged-up sex maniac". Both women claim to keep alive the true flame of the Hendrix legend.

Miss Danneman, who claims she was engaged to Hendrix and was sharing a flat with him in Notting Hill Gate when he died of an overdose of sleeping tablets in September 1970, has spent the past two decades paying homage to his memory.

Mr Justice French spent time yesterday astutely poring over the glossy coffee table Hendrix picture book for evidence. The hearing continues.



Hendrix: Killed by drugs

Handel's lottery memorial REBECCA FOWLER

Handet's London home, where he composed the Messiah in his dining room on the fourth floor, is to be bought from an insurance company with the help of a £500,000 lottery grant and transformed into a museum.

The terraced five-storey house in Brnok Street central London, where Handel lived for 36 years, was brand new when he moved into it in 1723. It is currently empty, slumbering hehind hoarding, and the only clue to its original owner is a hlue plaque heside the door.

Since Handel's death in 1759, the house bas been taken up by

individual owners, turned into a dental surgery and used as an antique shop. The museum hopes to open its doors to 50,000 visitors as a shrine to the

composer in two years' time. Dr Julie Anne Sadie, director of the museum, said: "Handel was the greatest composer ever to live and work in Britain. Other than his grave at Westminster Ahhey there is no memorial to him.

Composers are commemorated in their homes all over the world, so it's fitting and proper that the house in which he lived for so long should become a memorial to him."

The bouse consists of two

rooms and a closet on each floor, and Handel, who was famously fond of fine food, would often retire to the closets to eat. He would even leave his guests in his dining room to eat while he ordered better wine and food in his closet.

Dr Sadie said: "This was the one foible of an otherwise very generous man who did so much for the charities of his day. There was just something about food for him, and of all the inventories the one for the tchen is the most elaborate."

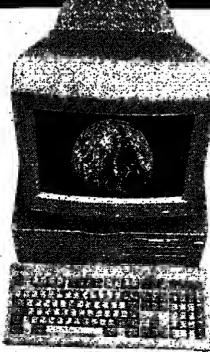
When renovated the house will include a recital room with seating for 70 people and there will also be a library.

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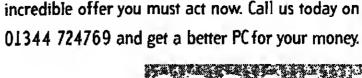




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Triple killer gets life as insanity plea fails

ALAN MURDOCH

A 22 year-old County Clare man with a history of mental illness was yesterday jailed for life for the murders of three people.

Brendan Patrick O'Donnell had denied murdering 29-yearold artist, Imelda Riney, her son Liam, three, and Father Joseph Walsh, 37, of Eyrecourt, Co Galway between 29 April and 8 May 1994. But the jury at Dublin's Central Criminal Court found him guilty by a ma-

O'Donnell, nf nn fixed address, was first treated with prescribed drugs in mental hospital at the age of three, and diagnosed as possibly psychotic at 14. He had attempted suicide nn four occasions and twice went on hunger strike after his arrest.

He claimed he had been told to shoot the victims by the Devil. Ho also claimed to have been told that Ms Riney was the Devil's daughter and that Fr Walsh was going to baptise her child, the Devil's son.

O'Donnoll had also pleaded not guilty to kidnapping a schoolgirl, Fiona Sampson and the attempted abduction of a farmer, Edward Cleary, on 7



O'Donneli leaving court earlier in the trial. He later tried

The trial hinged on whether

the defendant was sane. In his

his life, and described him as "a

kill" - arguing there were "vast

May 1994. He also denied having a shotgun and ammunition

with intent to endanger life. Ms Simpson had an extraordinary escape. Taken barefoot and still in her nightclothes, she was forced to drive the fugitive then dragged three miles through a forest. The court was told that O'Donnell did not kill her because he decided he liked her, and she was rescued by armed gardai as he tried to seize another car at gunpoint.

Mr McEntee countered that O'Donnell's disturbed behaviour indicated all the signs of schizophrenia, He said O'Donnell did not know the nature of his acts, whether they were right or wrong, and was unable to stop himself. "It is my case that this is insanity in anyone's language."

He said it was "breathtaking"

numbers of people who have bloodlust, who enjoy killing

and are not insane".

that, despite evidence that he had stabbed his sister and tried to stab her child in 1992, he was freed from a mental hospital in Ballinasloe, Co Galway after just two weeks, without the institution consulting either police, his doctors, or his sister It emerged O'Donnell had

been in seven prisons and de-

tention centres and two mental

summing up, prosecution counhomes before the age of 20. sel Kevin Haugh argued that O'Donnell was "cunning, think-A schoolteacher said he was "the most disturbed child" he had encountered in 22 years. At ing and rational, a clever, selfinterested liar. Patrick McEntee his mother's funeral, when he for the defence highlighted "the virtual hell" that had been was aged 10, he jumped into the grave. Ho claimed to hear voices from an early age, thought there were worms coming out had "set out with pleasure to able to walk on water and kill



Self-effacing: Sir Alec Guinness, star of 45 films, yesterday claimed his contribution to film was 'negligible' as his 82nd birthday was honoured with a plaque set outside the actors' union, Equity, in London Photograph: Philip Meech

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Toddler died after journey between four hospitals

A 23-month-old child with a collapsed lung died on an operating table after being ferried between four hospitals in eight hours, an inquest heard yester-

Robert Benton was turned away from one hospital because no beds were available, which resulted in a delay in receiving urgent treatment for respiratory difficulties. At the start of the inquest, the

ury at Birmingham Coroners Court, heard how Robert was first taken by his parents, Julie Benton, 23, and Tim Dawes, 32, to Sandwell Hospital near their home in Rowley Regis, West Midlands, at around 12.30pm on 7 June last year.

In a statement read out to the court, Ms Benton said the accident and emergency depart-ment was being refurbished. "It was in a terrible mess. It was very husy and chaotic but I was informed he would be exam-

were taken was occupied. After ton that x-rays showed that the overhearing a dispute between a doctor and a nurse over a natient who had left the hospital without receiving treatment, the couple decided to drive to Good Hope Hospital, 10 miles

· Paediatrician Dr Nicholas



med." However, the cubicle to Robert at Good Hope, told which Robert and his parents coroner Dr Richard Whitting-

away in Sutton Coldfield.

Watt Boyd, who examined

child's heart and lungs were displaced by over-inflation of his left lung. He said this could have been caused by a foreign hody such as a peanut or a mucus plug blocking the main airway. The presumed foreign body or mucus plug had to be removed hut Good Hope did not have

the equipment nor expertise for such a procedure. This is why we contacted Birmingham Chil dren's Hospital.

Dr Boyd told the court he had first telephoned Heart-lands Hospital, Birmingham. but the switchboard was unable to locate the thoracic surgeon he needed. Ten minutes later. he was informed that he should send Robert to ward two of the children's hospital.

However, on arrival at the hospital, Ms Benton, accompanied by a nurse and an anaesthetist, was told by nursing staff that no bed was available for Robert and that they had not

Dr Boyd said he had assumed that a bed would be waiting for Robert upon his arrival after having been told to transfer him. The protocol had since heen amended, he added.

Shortly after 7pm, Robert was admitted to Heartlands, where ho died at 9.12pm. The inquest continues.

LSD troop tests 'had secret agenda'

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Parliament was seriously misled over the purpose and extent of secret experiments on British troops with the drug LSD in the 1950s and 1960s, claims a Channel 4 documentary to be shown

The experiments took place at the top-secret chemical and hiological warfare establishmont at Porton Down. The programme includes newly reased film, formerly secret, of servicemen given LSD without their knowledge. LSD was also used on about 50,000 civilian psychiatric patients during this period until it was classified as a dangerous, class A drug in

On 21 November 1994, in reply to a question from Dr David Clark, the Labour defence spokesman, Parliament was told. with tests by the CIA and the of experiments on 72 service vol-

unteers between 1962 and 1968. These experiments were to evaluate the effect of LSD as a psycho-chemical in order to

develop countermeasures. The documentary claims none of the Government answers is true. An earlier series of experiments with LSD - lysergic acid diethylamide - be-gan in 1954. The Defence Evaluation and Research Agency now accepts that about 144 servicemen were involved in all the tests. The servicemen

volunteered but had no idea

what the experiments involved. The claim that the experiments were defensive in nature is also challenged by a secret document from 1959 which says the aim was to find a psychochemical which could be "recommended as a military agent". The 1950s tests appear to have been carried out in parallel US army.

DAILY POEM

Quartet

By John Fuller

The Duke String Quartet in Trinity College Chapel

The sound's diagonal, like oars. Its space is Also made of wood: the altar's square Geometry of light, the framing faces Of carved startled children, pair by pair; The strut of column, urn and cornice topped By an ascent of drapery and toes. The pulsing heartache of the strings is stopped By pressure of the fingers and the bows.

PHONE FREE TODAY ON

It must be the medium's nature to be profuse: Grain of rose in its ruhbed lake of wood Offors a panelled ear (or is it an eye?) To reflect the voyaging mind. Along the pews Heads are inclined like saints' who know they could Endure this exultation till they die.

John Fuller was born in 1937 in Ashford, Kent, and educated at St Paul's School and New College, Oxford: A fellow of Mag-dalen College, Oxford since 1966, he has encouraged two gen-erations of Magdalen poets including James Fenton, Mick Imlah, Alan Hollinghurst and Alan Jonkins. His first collection, Fairground Music (1961), displayed virtuosity, wit and consummato talont for pastiche within conventional verse-forms. Since the he has published 13 collections of poetry, the latest, from which this poem is taken, being Stones and Fires, published this week

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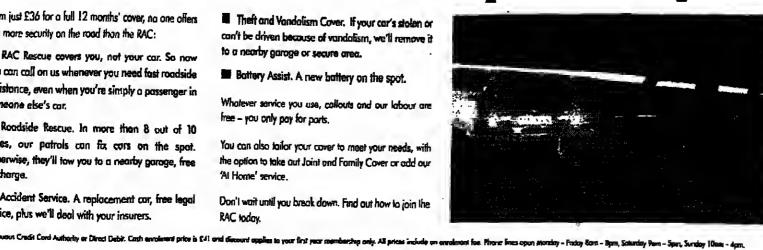
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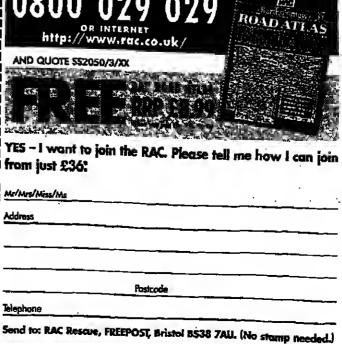
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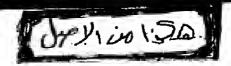
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distribution with the same land

Beck child sex abuse duo win £225,000 award

WILL BENNETT

多数的医可谓:

Two victims of Frank Beck, the social worker jailed for child abuse, were awarded a total of £225,000 damages yesterday, paving the way for a flood of similar claims running into millions of pounds.

Jennifer Lesiakowski, 36, will receive damages of £145,000 from Leicestershire County Council while Debra Barry, 31, was awarded £80,000 at the High Court in Nottingham. More than 30 similar actions are pending against the authority, which was criticised in a independent report for running a chaotic social services department and lacking a child care strategy and firm leadership.

Beck was sentenced to five terms of life imprisonment in 1991 after a court was told that he had sexually abused more than 100 children during 13 years in charge of three council run children's homes.

The former royal marine died of a heart attack aged 52 in prison in 1994. At the time he was preparing an appeal against conviction and sentence on 17 charges of rape, sexual ahuse and assault.

Miss Lesiakowski and Miss Barry were among seven victims who sued the council but the other five reached out of court settlements. The insurers are Municipal Mutual, which last weck forced Clwyd County Council to suppress a report into child abuse by threatening to dren's home run by Beck when

itals

POEM

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Victim and the abuser: Jennifer Lesiakowski, top, and Frank Beck, below

cancel cover against claims from victims.

Miss Lesiakowski, who will receive £80,000 for pain and suffering, £40,000 for loss of earnings and £25,000 to pay for therapy, transferred to a chilshe was 15. She was repeated-ly sexually assaulted by Beck and his staff and has since had a drink and drugs problem and suffers from flashbacks of Beck.

Mr Justice Potts said yesterday that she had suffered "torture" at the home and added: Whilst the defendants did nut rape the plaintiff, their negligence permitted Beck to do so."

Miss Lesiakowski later criticised the size of her award and said she hoped to appeal. "I am angry. From the age of 15 they have taken away my adolescence, and they seem to have taken away my future, too."

Miss Barry went in the same home at the age of 15 after problems at home. Staff gave her baby bottles, a toy to carry and read her children's stories as part of what Beck called "regression therapy". This involved returning disturbed teenagers to a childhood state and provided him with a cover for ahuse.

Once, after running away, she was stripped and left in a room for six weeks. She suffers from depression, a dislike of physical contact, flashbacks and a tendency to revert to haby-talk. Miss Barry said she was happy with the outcome. "It has been hell for the last five years for me and my family."

Billhar Singh, the women's solicitor, said: "This award recognises what the plaintiffs have suffered.' A county council spokesman

said it hoped the outstanding

cases could he quickly resolved.

Mother-to-be of triplets stole £20,000 for IVF

A mother-to-be escaped jail yesterday for the theft of £20,000 after a court was told she had stolen the money to pay for fertility treatment that had led to her conceiving triplets. Michelle Darby, 27, of Brack-

The second secon

nell, Berkshire, is due to give birth next week. Mr Recorder Joseph Boothby, sitting at Reading Crown Court, told her the hackground to her multiple pregnancy left him unable to give her a custodial sentence.

The court was told that she had become pregnant before as a result of IVF treatment and had given birth after six months to a child with spina hifida and extensive hrain damage. The baby died.

Darby, a trainee accountant, admitted six charges of theft and six falsifying accounts to a to-tal of £1,053. She asked fur a further 153 other offences totalling more than £19,055 to he taken into account.

The judge said: "I am unable to bring myself to send you to prison while facing a triplet oregnancy. Many would shed tears for your history and what you have been through." Darby told police after her ar-

rest that years of trying for a baby had led to things "getting

Isabel Dakyns, for the pros-

Darby was employed by TransNational Financial Services Ltd. in Reading, first as a clerk and then later as a assistant accountant. "During that time she used her position as an accountant to steal money from the company." Miss Dakyns said Darby used the money to pay off credit card bills.

Sheilagh Davies, for the defence, told the court: "Mrs Darby has made a complete and frank admission. It is difficult to understand how a woman uf good character in a trusted position should commit these offences.

Her greatest desire was to start a family. The obsession took over to such a degree that the person was no longer able to function.

The court was told it took seven privately-funded fertility treatments for Darby to become pregnant with the triplets.

car wil

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Mrs Davies said the stolen money stolen had not contributed to a "glory lifestyle". Darby's home is in negative equity and her former employer is taking civil action to reclaim the losses. "Despite the joy of the forthcoming bahies, her happiness is tinged with anguish for the future," she said.

Darby was given a 12 month suspended jail sentence and a 12 month supervision order.

Woman loses lover's £80,000 death benefit

A late businessman's live-in girlfriend was not entitled to receive thousands of pounds in death benefits as a "dependent", even though she had given up her financial independence in response to his wishes, a High Court judge ruled today.

Mr Justice Carnwath said the fact that Carol Slack, of Newark, Nottinghamshire, was living with Keith Hindle-Smith and he paid for their joint expenses was not sufficient to establish that she was dependent on him, and she had given up her financial independence as "a matter of choice".
In a judgment with important

implications for the heneficia-

Would your

ries of pension trusts, as well as the trustees, the judge ruled that the Pensions Ombudsman had heen entitled to find maladministration by the trustees of the pension scheme arranged for Mr Hindle Smith, who died intestate in August 1992. The judge said the trustees had acted "wbolly unreasonably" in awarding £80,000 of £140,000 in benefits to Mrs Slack.

In August last year, the Ombudsman ruled the award "null and void" and ordered the trustees to recover the payouts on behalf of Mr Hindle-Smith's children: each trustee to pay the hrother and sister £500 each in compensation.

Aircraft firm plans superjumbo

A new European "superjumbo" aircraft capable of carrying as many as 600 passengers wbo would tuck into meals from onboard fast food outlets could be in service within seven years.

The consortium Airbus Industrie, in which British Aerospace has a 20 per cent stake, is planning to huild up to 650 of the double-decker aircraft over the next 20 years if there is enough interest from airlines.

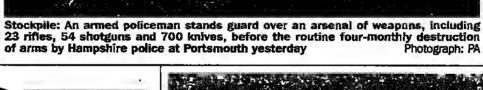
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The Toulouse-based company signalled its intentions yesterday by creating a large aircraft division to accelerate its work on the project, known as the A3XX. Airbus's American rival Boeing is also drawing up plans for a new large aircraft, but the European version will

he a completely new aircraft. British Aerospace, which has built the wings for all Airbus airfavourite to provide wings for the new large aircraft. An Airbus spokesman said

yesterday: "We might be able to launch the project within the next two years and have the first passenger flight by 2003. "We reckon airlines are

going to need more than 1,300 aircraft of 500 seats or more over the next 20 years and we would hope to produce about





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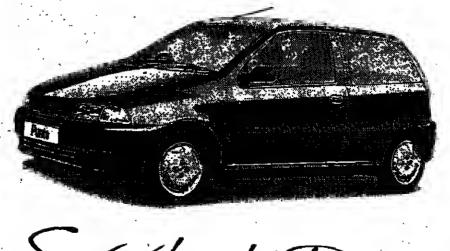
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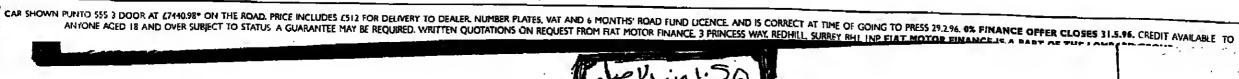
NO INTEREST FOR 2 YEARS.

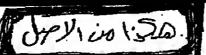
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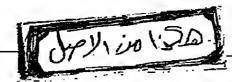




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juse-claim dice 'ignore





Teachers' conference: Dunblane tragedy heightens fears

Action urged over security in classrooms

FRAN ABRAMS Education Correspondent

Teachers have called for video surveillance, panic alarms and local committees with strong legal powers to protect them against intruders following the

Dunblane tragedy.
The Association of Teachers and Lecturers' conference, meeting in Torquay, heard that teachers felt mcreasingly threatened because of a lack of sccurity on school premises. The deaths of 16 children at Dunhlane Primary School and of head teacher Philip Lawrence, stabbed to death outside his Londoo secondary school in December, were cited as examples of the dangers they

The 150,000-member association has asked ministers to set up School Safe Commissions which would try to solve security problems on a local level. It will press the schools minister, Rohin Squire, on the issue when he speaks to its conference today. Strategies might include cutting the number of entrances to a school to prevent

Peter Smith, general secretary of the ATL, said a Harris poll

carried out on behalf of the union showed 84 per cent of own at 2am, to interview peopeople believed meetings between parents, governors, teachers, police and education officials would lead to improved security.

ple on my own in the police sta-

tion because I only had to press a button and someone would

come to my assistance. I have

no feeling of security in the classroom, she said. Mr Blunkett told the con-

ference that Labour would look for new ways of combating vi-olence in schools. "But while the

criminal justice system must

pick up the pieces when young

people go off the track, the ed-

ucation system can do much to

keep our young people on the

rails in the first place. Preven-

These commissions should be given statutory powers and should be responsible for producing policies on security and violence. Measures to prevent attacks by pupils might include a "red card" system described to the conference yesterday by David Blunkett, Labour's education spokesman. Under the system, which Mr Blunkett saw operating in a school in Newcastle, children were given a yellow card and punished if they offended. Three yellow cards led to a red card, and parents

would be called in. Mr Smith said: "There is no simple answer to the issue of violence in our schools and colleges. We can only beat this problem if we work together.

Schools cannot he fortresses."
Sally-Ann Webster, a teacher from Humberside, who joined the profession after leaving the police, said she had never felt so vulnerable as she now did in her classroom.

"As a police woman I was

Abuse-claim advice 'ignored'

FRAN ABRAMS

Headteachers are flouting government guidelines hrought in to protect staff against false allegations of abuse by pupils, a teachers' union heard yesterday.

Despite advice that schools should investigate before taking action, teachers are still being suspended automatically, the Association of Teachers and Lecturers (ATL) conference in Torquay heard.

of the guidance, as one of its members described how his name was still being kept on police files despite his being cleared of abuse allegations. Glyn Rowlands, a teacher at Peartree Spring junior school, in Hertfordshire, was confronted by a parent after dancing with children at a school disco ló months ago.

The woman's seven-year-old daughter had told her Mr Rowlands invited her into the dining room to see "Father Christmas". When he was alone with the girl, she alleged, he picked her up and kissed her be-fore telling her she could talk to her parents about it but not to her friends. Fortunately, Mr he said.

Rowlands's wife and two sons believed he was innocent, he said, hut a policewoman who visited the school to question him told him "children don't lie about these things".

Mr Rowlands was not suspended but was called to a meeting with his county coun-cil. The day it was due, a fortnight after the allegations were made, the girl withdrew them. Her parents gave him flowers and chocolates but the police The union called for a review did not apologise and he dis-the guidance, as one of its covered his name would remain on their files with the words charges withdrawn" beside it.

"Judgements should not be made before all the evidence has been gathered and certainly not by those who are investigating." Mr Rowlands said.

Peter Smith, the union's general secretary, said it would press for government guidelines ly. "Headteachers feel that if an allegation is made, no matter how minor it is, they have absolutely no option but to suspend. But in this particular area people are bound to say there's no smoke without fire."

Lecturers jobs to go

More than 2,000 lecturers' jobs will be lost this year in colleges and universities, a union claimed yesterday, writes Fran

The National Association of Teachers in Further and Higher Education, Natfhe, said there could be more redundancies later in the year because of government funding cuts.

They come on top of 1,500 full time teaching posts lost last forward proposals to cut academic staff though most of the jobs lost would be in colleges, the union said. Among universities

where redundancies are threatened are former polytechnics De Montfort, Derby, London Guildhall, Portsmouth, Teesside, South Bank and Westminster.

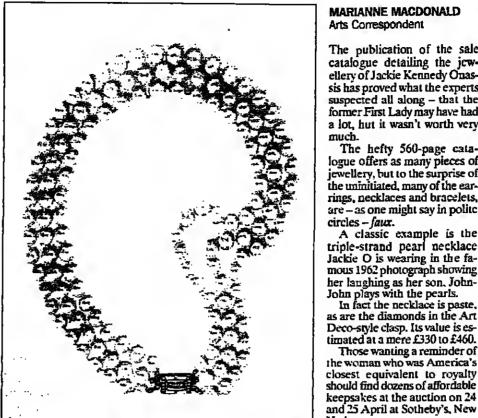
Spending per student in further education colleges would drop by some 16 per cent in three years and in universities by 12 per cent, it said.

The colleges will have 3 per cent more students in September but will be expected to make savings.

The Further Education Funding Council said the majority of colleges would receive a funding increase next year.



Gold wasn't all that glittered for Jackie O



tion is better than cure," he said. The famous necklace, estimated at just £330 to £460

The publication of the sale catalogue detailing the jewellery of Jackie Kennedy Onas-sis has proved what the experts suspected all along - that the former First Lady may have had a lot, hut it wasn't worth very

The hefty 560-page cata-logue offers as many pieces of jewellery, but to the surprise of the uninitiated, many of the earrings, necklaces and bracelets, are - as one might say in polite

are—as one might say in politic circles—faux.

A classic example is the triple-strand pearl necklace Jackie O is wearing in the famous 1962 photograph showing her laughing as her son. John-John plays with the pearls. In fact the necklace is paste, as are the diamonds in the Art

as are the diamonds in the Art Deco-style clasp. Its value is estimated at a mere £330 to £460. Those wanting a reminder of the woman who was America's closest equivalent to royalty should find dozens of affordable

A gilt necklace by Chauel is



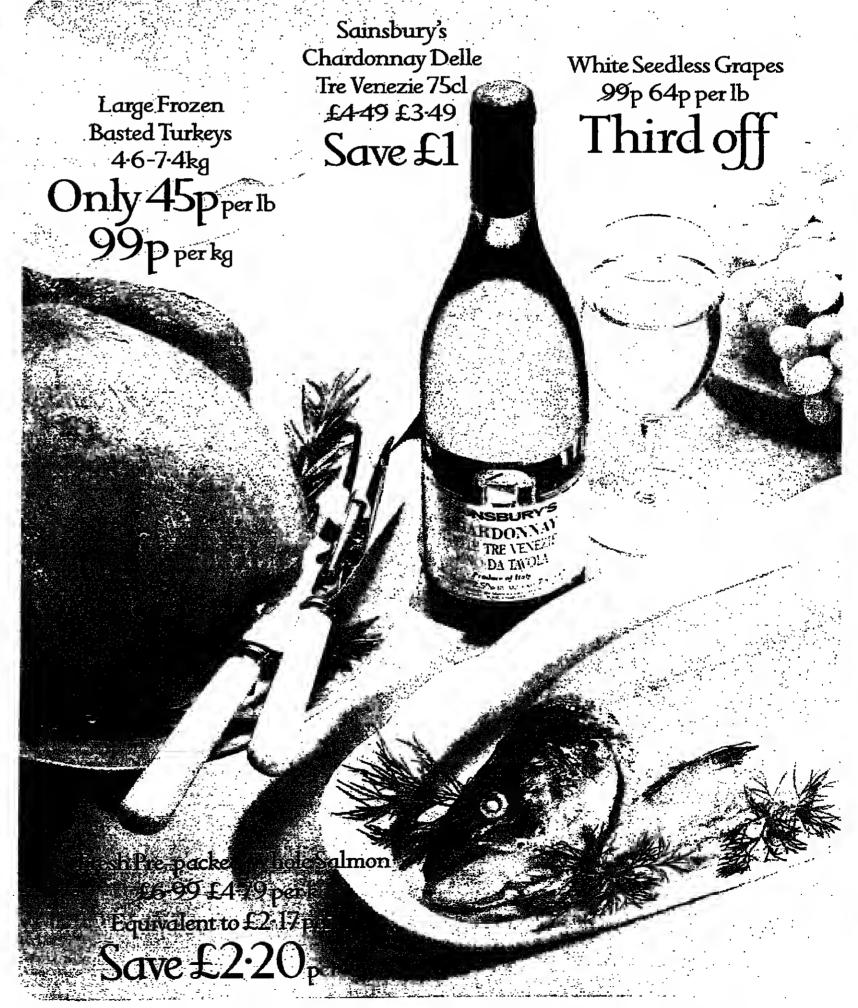
£200 to £260 and an elegant pair of fake pearl earrings £130 to £200. Even an elaborate collar of fake jet, moonstones, emeralds and mother-of-pearl is a snip at up to £330.

Jackie O was known for her elegant and restrained taste, but a closer look at her huge col-lection of jewellery reveals her love of dramatic pieces, strong ethnic influences and bold shapes. It would be wrong, however, to imply that the gorgeous array of bright jewels are all

quise-shaped diamond engagement ring, by Harry Winston, husband, Aristotle Onassis. The n 40-carat Lesotho III diamond. estimated at up to £400,000, L came from a stone said to be n one of the largest diamonds 's

But bidders should beware. u Sale prices for celebrity sales 's Last year a pair of Nureyev's C worn ballet shoes, estimated at II

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13岁的自己的胜人的119多

Asbestos victims win compensation battle

The multi-national engineering company T&N yesterday lost its legal attempt to overturn a High Court decision that it must pay a total of £115,000 to two cancer victims who as children played in drifts of asbestos dust around their homes.

Three Court of Appeal judges found that the company. which ran J W Roberts in the Armley district of Leeds until 1959, should have known about the dangers of asbestos dust long before the victims were born.

Evelyn Margereson, 70, was awarded £50,000 by the High Court in Leeds for the death five years ago of her husband. Arthur, who had mesothelioma, a cancer of the chest lining. June Hancock, 60, who was

awarded £65,000, is suffering from the same disease. Lord Justice Russell said in his judgment that T&N had claimed that they could not have known about the dangers prior to 1933. "The true date was much earlier, certainly long before Mr Margereson's hirth



June Hancock: 'I think T&N got their just deserts'

date. His activities as a child, therefore, as well as Mrs Hancock's were at a time when the defendants were on actual or constructive notice as to the potential pulmonary damage that exposure to asbestos dust could bring about." The judges refused the company leave to appeal to the House of Lords.
John Pickering, a solicitor

representing Mrs Margereson, said that although the judges Lord Justice Russell said the stressed this was not a test case, it would have an impact on 22 claims that have been lodged with T&N's solicitors. "Success in this case makes

me a good deal more confident about future claims," Mr Pickcring said. He added that the judgment was an important ruling in that it was found that injury from asbestos could be foreseen as far back as the turn of the century - not necessarily asbestosis or mesothelioma, hut some form of injury to the lungs. "This is a significant development in asbestos law."

A spokesman for T&N plc, parent group of the company which owned the Armley factory hefore 1959, said: "Although there may be other claims in the future arising out of the Armlcy factory, it is unlikely there will be many. The financial consequences of this decision, and any such future cases, will be very limited." The company had not yet decided whether to

factory operated from the late 19th century until 1958 making products which needed "very extensive use of asbestos". Evidence was "overwhelming" that asbestos dust was deposited in "enormous quantities" both inside and outside the factory.

William Woodward QC, for T&N, argued that it was not until 1933 that there was knowledge of the potentially dangerous qualities of asbestos. But, the judges said, a Home Office report in 1930 had found that asbestos was linked to many bronchial diseases, and the company owed a duty of care both to employees

and people living near by.
Mrs Margereson said: "It's taken six years to get here, and I'm very pleased with the news today.All I hope now is that this will help everybody else in the same position." Mrs Hancock added: "I'm overwhelmed with joy. My thoughts about T&N are unprintable. I think they got

Designer focuses on world of Hollywood movies | Man gets



Zipped up: Naomi Campbell modelling an Isaac Mizrahi creation Photograph: Sheridan Modey

Poster sex helps adverts reach record ratings of disapproval about hoardings. Although only the Club 18-30 posters, featur-

MARIANNE MACDONALD Media Correspondent

Complaints about advertisements soared last year, with posters - up more than double - the biggest culprit.

Authority's 1995 annual report, published today, reveals a 124

erful hypnotic tapes" his com-

pany was selling, the Advertising

Standards Authority said yes-

terday. It was upholding a com-

plaint challenging claims made

for-the audio tapes in a national

The advertisement was head-

cfi "I will give you the power to

succeed" and included the head-

newspaper advertisement.

Posicode

28 poster adverts broke ASA codes, the public "are clearly expressing a level of disquiet about the images that confront them. the report said. The worst offenders were

The Advertising Standards an advert for the film Disclosure, starring Michael Douglas and published today, reveals a 124 Demi Moore, which featured ger to someone smoking a cigar, per cent rise in complaints the couple apparently having sex attracted 251 complaints. While

Hypnotic tapes claims were inflated

thousands of people, from lead-

ing business people to sports

champions, to maximise their

performance. Now the same is

available to you on the most

powerful and effective hypnot-

"As you will discover, hypnosis really works. It's powerful and

ic tapes I have ever made.

Paul McKenna, the television lines "Immediate improvement"

hypnotist, put his name to evaceerated claims about "pow
It claimed: "I have helped

while standing up, and a Playhoy TV poster proclaiming "Morgasms" — hut both were "considered unlikely to cause serious or widespread offence".

right away and generally takes

tisement was signed by McKen-

na, whose television show The

Hypnotic World of Paul McKen-

na turned him into a household

name. The ASA adjudication

noted advertisers' point that the

tapes were not always success-

ful, hut said it considered "that

several of the claims exagger-

The message in the adver-

a few weeks to complete."

Two other campaigns were found to be offensive. One for Hamlet cigars, showing the lottery hand of fate giving the fin-

ing notorious slogans including "Girls, can we interest you in a package holiday?" under a picture of a man wearing boxer shorts, received 490 objections.

In all, there were 2,288 complaints about 348 posters, of which 2,030 were from people who had found them offensive.

Complaints about adverts from all mediums, including the press and direct mail, rose by 32.5 per cent to a record high of 12,804. The worst advertiser, on volume of complaints, was the British Safety Council, which had 1,765 objections to an advert featuring the Pope wearing a hard hat under the slogan: "The 11th Commandment: Thou shalt always wear a condom." All were upheld.

However, the report claimed standards overall were "extremely high", with 96 per cent of press adverts and 98 per cent of poster adverts complying with British advertising codes.

14 years for rape of boy

A sex fiend was yesterday jailed for 14 years for the rape and attempted murder of a 13-yearold boy. Mr Justice Collins told Leeds

Crown Court that James Peacock, 49, deserved a lengthy sentence because he was a danger to the public and his victim was still terrified - he harricades his hedroom door at night.

Peacock, of Manningham, Bradford, was found guilty of attempting to murder the boy last month. He admitted the

The court had heard that the teenager was fishing near a hridge in the Yorkshire town of Haworth when Peacock began to chat to him. As the boy packed up his belongings.
Peacock produced a knife,
grahbed the hoy and raped
him. When the boy hit him with a stone, Peacock tried to strangle him, punched him and then held his head under the water.

The judge said the youngster. who was found distressed and covered in blood near the scene of the attack last June, had suffered terrible psychological injuries. He told Peacock: "I bear in mind the effect this had on the unfortunate boy. Suffice to say that he is still

"He barricades his bedroom door at night and he is terrified of sudden and unpredictable movements near him.

"He is afraid that you will be released from prison and attack him again. These fears are likely to remain for some time." Peacock, a slightly-built man

who worked as a forklift truck driver, showed no emotion after he was sentenced. The judge said that there was no indication of any mental

reason why Peacock committed the "most dreadful attack". At his trial, Peacock told the jury that he had drunk seven or eight pints during his day out in Haworth, the West Yorkshire town famous for its connection

with the Brontes. He said he had never had homosexual tendencies and he did not know why he had raped the boy. He told the court: "I was just totally disgusted. I couldn't believe I had done it."

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TAMSIN BLANCHARD Fashion Editor

Unzipped, the film about New York designer Isaac Mizrahi that opens in London later this month, has done a lot to promote the man who has more talent as a showbusiness personality than as a designer.

In the film, Mizrahi's mother is his guiding light and his solution to designing a collection is to rounp through her wardrobe from the past three

The clothes looked as though they had all been round the block a few times. Some pieces, like a pearlised brocade fabric made into a maxi skirt, must have heen lifted from her wardrobe, but even she would avoid having to wear a catsuit with voluminous culottes.

The collection was all over the place and included a fluorescent pink satin disco catsuit. In Mizrahi's world, life is one long 1940s Hollywood movie. But his world has very little to do with reality.

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London's £2.6 billion rail artery faces axe

CHRISTIAN WOLMAR Transport Correspondent

Plans to build a new railway line under London linking Paddington and Liverpool Street stations have been shelved by the Gov-ernment after £150m had been speni on drawing up the scheme. The £2.6bn Crossrail scheme

which would have provided a range of new railway services linking areas to the east and west of London will not be started for at least the next seven years when the Channel tunnel rail link is completed. But a statement in the Commons yesterday by Sir George Young, Secretary of State for Transport. indicated it could well be abandoned for good later this year.

London Transport, British Rail and Railtrack had hoped to start the parliamentary process to enable the construction of the line later this year, but Sir George has ordered the three organisations not to proceed with plans "for the time being". He now wants Railtrack to take control of the project after it has been privatised but warned that "Crossrail should proceed only as a joint venture with a substantial private sector contribution".

It is doubtful that Railtrack. which is due to be sold to the public next month, will want to take on such an expensive scheme which will need a large



the scheme will be scrapped to get Railtrack privatised."

subsidy from the Government. Indeed, a report by Nick Montagu, the Department of Transport official in charge of rail privatisation, warned in a memo leaked late last year that handing over the Crossrail project to Railtrack would jeopardise the privatisation because it was 100 onerous. Therefore, the transfer is being seen as sounding the death knell for the scheme.

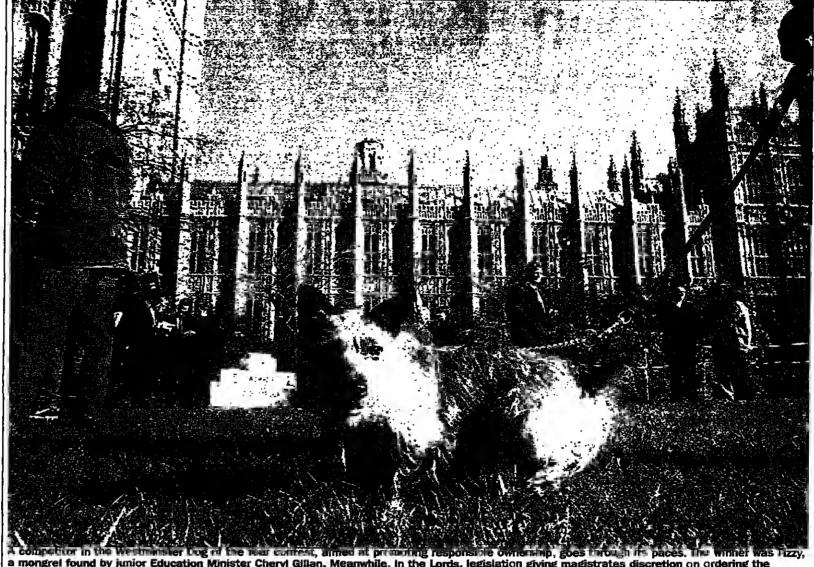
Michael Cassidy, chairman of the policy and resources committee of the City of London Corporation, which has been one of the main supporters of the scheme, said: "While I'm pleased the Government has not killed it off straight away, I'm convinced that once the Treasury looks at it again in the autumn once Railtrack has been privatised, it will scrap it permanently.

Mr Cassidy sees the scheme as vital to the City's future, stating: "We expect to regain employment levels of the late 1980s when there were 320,000 working in the City compared with 280,000 now. At the time, the Central Line was at times dangerously overcrowded and this will happen again unless Cross-rail is built." Crossrail would run parallel to the Central Line for the route through London, relieving pressure on one of London's husiest Tube lines.

London Transport chiefs are known to be privately furious at the Government's decision as they see it as a vital part of London's infrastructure. However, publicly, Peter Ford, LT's chairman, merely reiterated his support for the scheme. An earlier attempt to get Crossrail through Parliament collapsed two years ago after opposition from a Tory
MP on the committee considering the Bill.

Clare Short, Labour's transport spokeswoman, was angered by the decision and said: Crossrail is a fantastically valued project which has been Michael Cassidy: Convinced sabotaged by the Government

Dogs have their day at Westminster



a mongrel found by junior Education Minister Cheryl Gillan. Meanwhile, in the Lords, legislation giving magistrates discretion on ordering the

G7 rebuffs Britain over labour standards

DIANE COYLE **Economics Editor**

The Government suffered a set back at the Group of Seven jobs summit which ended in Lille yesterday when other min-isters insisted on pursuing the need to improve labour standards in developing countries in order to help cut unemployment in their own.

But the Secretary of State for Employment, Gillian Shephard, and the Chief Secretary to the Treasury, William Waldegrave, said the British approach of combining sound macroeco-nomic policy with deregulation of the economy had been endorsed by the summit.

The British ministers clashed with their American, French and Italian counterparts over the implications of a key section of yesterday's communique. It said the G7 "noted the importance of enhancing core labour standards around the world and examining the links between these standards and international trade in appropriate

Its inclusion marks a victory for US and French concerns that practices such as child and forced labour make Third World goods unfairly cheap.

Mr Waldegrave said the summit had agreed that the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

and the International Labour Organisation would undertake further studies. But Britain would oppose any move to take the discussion to the World Trade Organisation, the body which regulates international trade. The Treasury Secretary said: "We are not convinced that using the WTO in this way would not be a route for pro-

However Robert Reich, the US Labour Secretary, said it must address the issue. "The WTO is the proper forum for discussing labour standards," he said. The row is certain to continue at further international

tectionism by the hack door."

summits this year. The summit's emphasis on labour standards echoes European concerns about whether Britain's opt out from the EU's Social Chapter gives it an unfair advantage. The EU Monetary Commissioner, Yves-Thiboult de Silguy, said: "Everyone has to be playing the same game. You would not put footballers and rugby players on the same field and ask them to play

The communiqué endorsed French President Jacques Chirac's call for a "third way" combining Anglo Saxon flexi-hility with European social standards. It said sound macroeconomic policies and structural reforms were both

hasehall.'

needed.

Mrs Shephard said: "There was a very clear acceptance that the most important thing in the field of jobs and employment is the pursuit of a sound economy and a deregulated labour market." Mr Waldegrave downplayed

the need for additional measures to promote social cohesion. "The best way of pursuing social cohesion is to end the division between the haves and the have nots in terms of jobs." he said.

There were signs that the American team was unhappy about the lack of growth in some European countries and would prefer 10 see lower interest

Major dismisses TV joust as 'stupid stunt'

COLIN BROWN Chief Political Correspondent

The Prime Minister last night was accused by Lahour of "chickening out" of a televised debate against Tony Blair, the Labour leader, after dismissing the idea as a "stupid PR-stunt".

Labour sources said that by dismissing the prospect of a televised debate in the run-up to the election, John Major had also crushed Conservative Party officials who had floated the idea. In a letter to Mr Major, John Prescott, the Labour Party's

deputy leader, said: "After days of dithering ... in effect you have declined your own party's invitation. "Whether or not the public want a televised debate, they will draw only one conclusion from our decision to get cold feet

age sar-will

have chickened out." The Conservative party chairman, Brian Mawhinney. refused to rule out the televised debate at the weekend. Senior Tory Party sources said there were practical difficulties, but it could go ahead if Labour was prepared to field Mr Prescott and other front benchers in other televised debates with

about your own idea - that you

Cabinet ministers. Mr Major was challenged at Prime Minister's Question Time by Kate Hoey, a Labour backbencher, to take up the chance. But Mr Major said i reminded him of the response he got from a Labour politiciar he had challenged to a debate when he was a young Conserv ative candidate.

"He told me to go and sor out my policies first and then we'll consider these stupid PF stunts," Mr Major said.

Some senior Tory strategist believed there could be at advantage in having Mr Majo go several rounds with Mr Blai on television.

The event would have marked a dramatic shift is British politics towards the stylof US presidential elections where head-to-head television contests are part of the routin of the hustings, and can cour heavily in people's perception." of the party leaders.

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Bosnia's mass graves: Local people are trying to conceal the suspected burial sites of Srebrenica's butchered menfolk

Serbs cover up traces of their killing fields

The banality of evil is in full view on a patch of waste ground near a hamlet west of Zvornik and the Drina river, the border between Bosnia and Serbia, despite the best efforts of those who would bury a crime that was too great to hide.

The site, known as Sahinici One, is a target for investigators from the international war crimes tribunat who are in the area seeking evidence to support indictments for genocide and crimes against humanity following the Bosnian Serb cupture of the town of Srebrenica last July. The International Red Cross believes more than 3.000 men were executed by the Serbs and buried in mass graves scattered around eastern Bosnia. year were gone.

Lumps of sodden, churned brown earth on a patch of waste ground between a wood and a railway line, a few tyre tracks and a rotting pile of cloth mark the alleged execution site of more than 600 men. They point also to the secondary crime of a cover-up at Sahinici

tt is clear that the grave, the alleged grave, although the physical and testimonial evidence is compelling, has been tampered with recently, despite denials by I-For, Nato's peace implementation force. l-For has also refused to despatch any of its 60,000 troops to guard the suspected massacre sites, arguing it is not a military task and that satellite

surveillance would suffice. Perhaps 40 per cent of the site, maybe 30 by 50 yards, is covered with young grass. The blades cover mounds of mud and old vehicle tracks are clearly visible. But the rest of the site has been turned over recently: there are furrows of earth mingled with grass and moss that we're not there a few days ago.

vice reporters visited. The fresb digging is clear to observers; the other alterations an be detailed by one journalist, David Rohde, an Amercan who visited the site in October on a risky trip – he was aught by the Serbs at another ite and jailed for two weeks. Yesterday, in a swift and unserving visit to Sahinici One. he lescribed the changes that have aken place since October.

"Pretty much everything I botographed has gonc ... the boes and a pair of glasses on he field," he said. Up a grassy rack, we examined what

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remained of the pile of jackets and walking sticks Mr Rohde saw last year. Someone had tried to camouflage the debris by tossing old chair cushions and other rubbish on top. But we found numerous strips, torn from one piece of cloth, apparently stained with blood, that match the descriptions of blindfolds on the victims given

by survivors of the killings. We found one ID card, two hank pass-books, a Yugoslav passport and two medical cards in a cursory search; they were wet and illegible, but tribunal experts may be able to decipher names. A scarf seemed to bear large bloodstains, and shoes and a pair of the knitted slippers of the kind worn at home by Muslims poked out of the pile of rubbish. The canes and jackets Mr Rohde described last

Three known survivors from Sahinici One described being bussed to a school in the village nearby - where children yesterday milled around the playground - then dispatched in groups, blindfolded, in open trucks, to the killing field.

They say Serb soldiers lined the Muslims up in groups of 10 and machine-gunned them. Two men. one a cripple, hid under the bodies of the fallen. At night, when the Serb guards had left, they escaped through the woods. One carried the other. It took 11 days to reach gov-ernment territory. The third man escaped alone.

Forensic experts from the international war crimes trihunal yesterday began investigating the alleged massacres after the fall of Srebrenica. They are expected to visit amhush sites and alleged holding centres, as well as some of the nine graves thought to contain the remains of at least 3,000 people. Another 5,000 are still missing from Srehrenica.

Almost identical stories told by a few survivors of the mass executions paint an unspeakably grim picture of the enclave's fate under the Bosnian Serb army commander, General Raiko Mladic, who has been indicted for genocide and crimes against humanity. He was seen at the school by the survivors.

The 45,000 people crammed into Srebrenica during the war survived primarily by raiding nearby Serb villages for food. Local Serbs were killed in such attacks. It is the deaths of those Serbs that General Mladic was apparently seeking to avenge after the fall of Srebrenica.

VISA

Almost as appalling as the campaign is the implication that hundreds, if not thousands, of local Serbs knew what was happening. The executions and burials did not take place in isolated areas hut close to main roads, villages, and houses.

The executions were a huge operation. Many mass graves are located between 30 and 100km from Srehrenica and the UN camp at Potocari, where the desperate civilians vainly sought the protection of Dutch UN peace-keepers after the Serbs attacked the town.

About 15,000 others, mostly men, tried to walk to safety. They were attacked by Serbs and many were captured. Survivors say they were bussed to sites all over eastern Bosnia, lined up, sbut, and then dumped in mass graves.



Gun play: A young boy hangs on the barrel of a destroyed T-54 tank in Grbavica, a suburb of Sarajevo

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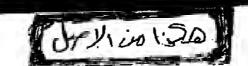
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Walesa cruises into shipyard

ADRIAN BRIDGE Central Europe Correspondent

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A STATE OF S

Lech Walesa, the world's most famous electrician, yesterday returned to the Gdansk shipyard where he made history to take up his old job - kept open for him during the five years in which he served as President of

It was a surreal home-coming. Escorted by a bodyguard, the now portly Mr Walesa swept through the shipyard gates in a chauffeur-driven black Mercedes shortly after 6.30am.

Instead of getting out the screwdrivers, Mr Walesa's first day back consisted of meeting the shipyard manager, a press conference and a nostalgic return to the hall where the Solidarity trade union was legalised in the historic Gdansk

Accords of August 1980. This hall represents for me the best, but also the most difficult moments of my life," said Mr Walesa, the founder of Solidarity and its leader in the struggle which led to the final overthrow of the Communist

was given the entry pass num-ber 61878, wants his old job back hecause he needs money. Although as a former president he is entitled to a car and a bodyguard, he does not receive a state pension - a state of affairs he blames on the "malice" of Poland's government of

former Communists. As an electrician, Mr Walesa will earn a monthly salary of some 600 zlotys (£170), a tenth of what he earned as President and half that earned by his chauffeur. He admits it will not pay the rent, but with a wife and family of eight to support,

he says every bit will help.

After being given the customary medical examination and an update on the yard's safety procedures, Mr Walesa is expected later this week to join his old colleagues in the workshop where he spent six years fixing electric trolleys under the supervision of the Communist secret police.

Old workmates yesterday recalled Mr Walesa as an amiable colleague and a good worker, but sensed there was more

Ostensibly, Mr Walesa, who to Mr Walesa's return than met the eye. "I don't know what is going on ... Why make such a fool of himself?" said a shipyard

worker, Zbigniew Zurek.
Mr Walesa's motives are complex. While wanting to discredit the government and his successor, Aleksander Kwasniewski, he is perhaps seeking to remind people of his working-class credentials.
At only 52, he has made it

clear he has not renounced his political amhitions. His main aim now is to unify Poland's fractured centre and right before parliamentary elections take place next year. In talks with his old shipyard bosses, Mr Walesa has already

negotiated one day off a week

to pursue his political goals

and has also managed to get

time off next week for a trip to

the US where he will deliver a series of well-paid lectures. Mr Walesa promised yesterday that while he is in the US he will draw people's attention to the plight of the Gdansk ship-yard, which is currently heavily in debt and in search of



Wired up: Lech Walesa shows up at his old shipyard in Gdansk holding a set of screwdrivers. The former president says he needs the money. Photograph: Reuter

Doughty burghers have no truck with the herd instinct

Half-way through the week-end I learnt that the Tony Garnier hall in southern Lyons. where the centre-right UDF grouping was staging its latest round of internecine warfare (otherwise known as a leadership election), had once been the municipal abattoir. Ten days after the outbreak of the "mad-cow" crisis, with Europe suspended between condemnation of Britain's farming practices and the carnivorous Continent's worries about the collapse of its own beef market, this was information I could have done without.

But the citizens of Lyons, eaters of red meat and practically every other animal part for centuries, were unworried. Promenading in costumes through the old quarter in near zero-temperatures in honour of one of the district's patron saints, they were gearing up for the feasting to come. To be deposited at Beef Street might have seemed to a Briton like a calculated insult but to a Lyonnais it was the start of a splendid night out.

Restaurants named Master Butcher and variations on the theme advertised not just beef in a dozen or more cuts but hrains, liver, swectbread, sausages and tripe. Only one hand-written menu seemed dimly aware of a problem. Rather than beefsteak it had decided on "Charollais steak" (after the cattle breed), with the following clarification: "Animals reared 30km from Lyons in grass pastures." If anything, that made matters worse: you

almost felt you knew them. His predilection for a hearty piece of meat or sausage and a decent Beaujolais is something that has endeared Raymond Barre - former prime minister, elder statesman and Euro-enthusiast - to the wary Lyonnais in the nine months since he became mayor. His rounded figure gave him a good start over his lean Socialist opponent, Gerard Colomb, during the election, conveying the subliminal message that he might not just be another apparatchik parachuted in from Paris for a

nice soft retirement.

Colomh seem pleasantly sur-prised. So does Mr Barre, who has taken to the city in a big way. Unlike many Paris politicians with a provincial mayordom, he has moved to his adopted city and cast himself as its most fervent ambassador. As well as hanging European flags alongside the tricolour and Lyons standard at every opportunity, he solicits the day's menus from city restaurants and chooses whichever takes his fancy.

If his comfortable figure and food preferences are part of Mr Barre's success as mayor, the lean and hungry look of the Prime Minister, Alain Juppé, may well have contributed to his unpopularity both nationally and in his mayoral city of Bordeaux. The other key to Mr Barre's success could be that, at 72. he is not seeking re-election in five years' time and can concentrate on running the city rather than storing up favours.

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While Mr Barre and the Lyonnais may be increasingly happy with each other. Lyons itself is going through a rough patch. For a city that has, I was told, always regarded the choice of Paris as the French capital to be "a historic aberration", this climate of selfdoubt is seen as uncharacteristic and debilitating. The conviction for corruption of the last mayor, Michel Noir, contributed to it but what really brought their image problem home to the Lyonnais was the choice of Lille to hid for the 2004 Olympics. "People ... kept asking why Lille, without any of the culture or history of Lyons, should be preferred and they could not understand that Lille might need the Games more," said one councillor.

Lyons has its chance to shine at the annual summit of the Group of Seven industrialised countries in June but no one sees that as any compensation and even if the Olympics defeat - perhaps the first such defeat Lyons has suffered to a French city other than Paris - has some salutary effects, it will rankle for a long time.

Mary Dejevsky

Bankers hope cultural theme will warm public to euro note

SARAH HELM

European cultural history bas heen chosen as the main thematic design for the new euro notes, which are due to start circulating in 2002, Europe's single currency planners revealed yesterday. A second theme will depict abstract images.

Other themes, such as transport or wildlife, which were being considered for the notes, have apparently been rejected.

Decisions over the design of the euro notes and coins are being taken in secrecy by the European Monetary Institute (EMI), the central bank-inwaiting, in Frankfurt, and by national mint masters.

The committees of hankers and technocrats who are planning the single currency want to produce designs which will

make the public associate with the money and lose their doubts about the project.

Psychologists and historians have been employed to advise on how this can be hest achieved. However, the same committees are nervous about sparking public debate on the design of the currency, for fear of divisive argument and a further backlash against the project. Recent opinion polls bave shown growing public scepticism about European monetary union.

Under stiff criticism for failing to consult the public on what the notes should look like, the EMI announced in Fehruary that a design contest is to he beld in each member state. However, the contest is being conducted in secrecy and only designers nominated by each national central hank may take part. The contest will run for the

judgement on the design will not appen until 1998 on the eve of the launch of monetary union.

The designers will have to work within the specifications of the two themes announced yesterday - "ages and styles of Europe" and "abstract/modern". For the "ages and styles" theme, features on the seven denominations of banknote must show a specific period of European cultural history: classical, Romanesque, gothic, renaissance, haroque and rococo, the age of iron and glass, and the age of modern architecture.

The EMI bas still failed to decide whether there should be any national symbol on the notes. If there were to be such a symbol it should occupy only 20 per cent of the space and should appear on only one face. said yesterday's report.

Ill-starred chef falls out of flavour

MARY DEJEVSKY

The head chef at the Tour d'Argent, the venerated Paris restaurant which suffered the disgrace of losing its third Michelin star last month, is to be replaced from the beginning of May, it was announced yesterday. The restaurant's owner said be had reached agreement with Manuel Martinez to part com-

pany.
Mr Martinez is to be re-placed by 44-year-old Bernard Guilhaudin, a native of Lyons, with an impressive record in Paris. The owner of the Tour d'Argent, Claude Terrail, said his objective now was to start trying to recover the third star.

Founded in 1582 in the reign of Henry III, the restaurant is the oldest in Paris and frequented by French high society, politicians, and - increasingly -well-to-do foreign visitors. Except for one year, 1952, it had been awarded three stars since the Michelin Guide's star system was introduced in 1933.

The Guide gives no specific reason for awarding or subtracting a star, and all its inspections are anonymous. This year, however, it appeared to allude to the reasons for demoting the Tour d'Argent by saying that the recession in France was no reason to lower standards, and that "all that counts is what is on the plate, not the trimmings". It was one of only two restaurants in the whole of France to face the indignity of losing a third star.

While the loss of a coveted Michelin star is enough in itself to explain the dismissal of Mr Martinez, another cloud also hung over him. He was one of several celebrated Paris chefs placed under judicial investigation in December on suspicion of having taken kickbacks from a supplier at the Paris wholesale fish market. More than 20 others, including the head chef at the Crillon Hotel's two-star restaurant, were also implicated in the case, which is said to involve monthly payments of between 1,000 and 3,000 francs to each.



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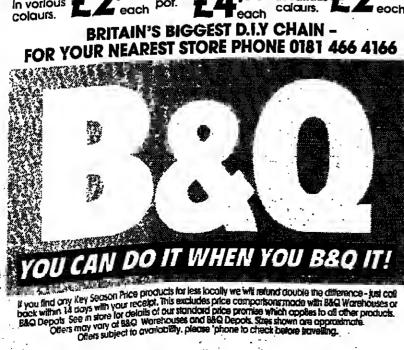
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US seeks deal between Iraqi Kurds

PATRICK COCKBURN Jerusalem

The US is to make a fresh hid to resolve the simmering Kurdish civil war in northern Iraq which has killed 3,000 people in the last 18 months. Fearful of growing Iranian influence, the State Department is to send Robert Deutsch, its leading expert on the region, to Kurdistan this month to mediate

between the warring parties.

If all goes well the US may invite Massoud Barzani, the leader of the Kurdish Democ-

ratic Party, and his main rival, Jalal al-Talabani of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, to Washington to sign an agreement dividing power hetween them. "The chances of a deal are good because neither side has been able to inflict a decisive defeat on the other and everybody is tired of fighting," says a Kurdish observer.

Mr Deutsch will also want to rescue the US from a growing foreign policy débacle in Kurdistan. Ever since Iraqi forces departed in the wake of the Gulf war in 1991 it has been been pro-

tected by US, British and French aircraft patrolling overhead. But failure of the US to prevent the war between Mr Barzani and Mr Talahani, who control the northwest and south-east of Kurdistan respectively, created a power vacuum which led to the Turkish invasion last year. This in turn provoked Iran into stepping up its efforts to increase its influence.

The CIA also uses Kurdistan as a base for covert operations against Iraqi President Sadopposition groups. One oppo-sition party, known as the Iraqi National Accord, has planted bombs in Baghdad which killed more than 100 civilians according to testimony by their chief bomb-maker, recorded on video and first published by the Independent. The disclosure - out of Iraq into Turkey. about the hombing may em-barrass President Bill Clinton,

rorist conference in Egypt. The US will try to get the Kurdish leaders to implement dam Hussein, financing Iraqi a peace agreement first worked out by a conference in Ireland

who last month assembled 27

world leaders for an anti-ter-

the main Kurdish city of Arbil, currently held by Mr Talabani's forces, will be neutralised. There will also be redivision of the crucial customs does on trade - mostly of oil products

Even though all sides in Kurdistan want to end the war, the difficulties still to be resolved are horrendous, mainly because of intense competition for influence from neighbouring countries. der, opposes the influence of Iraq, Turkey and the US in Kurlate last year. Under this accord distan. It recently persuaded

Mr Barzani to sign an agreement ty (PKK) which is fighting its own separatist guerrilla war against the Turkish government.

This has angered Turkey which might once again send its troops across the border into Irani Kurdistan in search of PKK bases. Ankara has always wanted the Iraqi Kurds to act against the Turkish Kurd guerrilla units. Mr Talabani's party Iran, with a long common bor- has refused to sign any agreement to do so. But Turkish backing is essential if a new US peace plan is to work and Mr Deutsch permanent war zone.

PATRICK COCKBURN

The proposal by Shimon Peres,

the Israeli Prime Minister, to

hold a referendum in Israel on

any future peace accord with the PLO, was denounced yesterday

by Yasser Arafat, the Palestin-

ian leader, as "completely against what has been agreed

collective punishments, the

refusal to withdraw from Hebron, and the Israeli army's

reconquest of areas from which it had withdrawn are a decla-

ration of war against the

The aim of the surprise

announcement of a referen-

dum by Mr Peres, during a visit to Oman, appears to be to

outmanoeuvre the right-wing

opposition Likud party, hy

robbing it of its main issues.

Palestinian people.

Earlier, Mr Arafat said: "The

Arafat says

referendum

betrays Oslo

peace deal

will be stopping in Ankara on his way to northern Iraq. Almost the only subject on

which the US, Turkey, Iran, Syria and the Kurdish leaders are agreed is that they do not want President Saddam Hussein back in control of Iraqi Kurdistan. At the same time Iraq's neigh-bours want to avoid the formation of a Kurdish state, which would encourage their own Kurdish minorities to seek selfdetermination. The result of these conflicting pressures has been to turn Kurdistan into a

off of the West Bank and Gaza

- tast weekend even handicapped children on an annual

holiday outing were not being

allowed out of Gaza - is

group B'Tselem in a report

describes the suffering of the

2.3 million Palestinians in the

occupied territories in the month since the last suicide

It says almost 1,000 people

have been arrested by Israel and

it fears "that many detainees are

being tortured and abused dur-

ing interrogations." It says at

least eight Palestinians have

died because they were pre-vented from reaching hospitals

B'Iselem also questions the effectiveness of measures such

as the demolition of houses of

Palestinian activists, saving that

400 houses have been hull-

dozed or blown up since the start of the intifada in 1987 without diminishing Palestinian rad-

icalism. On the contrary, it says

demolitions and the imposi-

tion of curfews on whole villages are likely to drive "increasing-

ly desperate Palestinians to

perpetrate violent acts against

Israeli settler who killed 29

worshippers in a mosque in

educational and charitable in-

stitutions in the West Bank and

in Arab east Jerusalem. Shlomo

Dror, a spokesman for policy in

the territories, said all nine

were closed for "training the

next generation of suicide

an orphanage, because we don't

believe teachers have a right to

indoctrinate their kids that

suicide bombers are heroes

Israeli actions, such as the

arrest of 370 students from Bir

Zeit university, appears aimed

primarily at impressing on

Israeli voters that the govern-

ment is tough on security.

A danger for Mr Peres, however, is that the blockade will

In many cases, however, the

that they should emulate."

"In the worst case, we closed

Israel has also closed nine

It notes that no action was

Israelis".

Hehron in 1994.

to get treatment.

The Israeli human rights

infuriating Palestinians.

bomhing.

IN BRIEF

Schwartzkopf calls for ban on mines

wise ru Washington — General Norman Schwarzkopf, US com-mander in the Gulf War, and 14 other retired military leaders vesterday came out in support of banning land mines in what anti-mine campaigners hailed as a breakthrough toward saving countless civilian lives.

In "An Open Letter to President Clinton" 14 generals and one admiral asked the President urgently to "take the lead in efforts to achieve a total and permanent international ban on the production, stockpiling, sale and use of antipersonnel land mines." The weapons are blamed for at least 26,000 deaths and mainings around the world each year.

Election hand over

Cotonou, Benin - President Nicephore Soglo yesterday accepted the outcome of last month's election and agreed to hand power to the former dictator who defeated him at the polls with just over 52 per cent of the vote.

Car bomb in France Ronbaix, France - For the second time in less than a week, a police bomh squad was called to defuse a car booby-trapped with explosives in northern Franc, this time in Rouhaix, 120 miles north of Paris. On Friday. a similarly rigged car was discovered in nearby Lille. AP

US jets for Egypt

Cairo - The United States will sell 21 new F-16 fighter jets to Egypt to bolster a key player in Middle East peace, US Defense Secretary William Perry said. adding that Egypt would pay for the jets with part of the \$1.3hn (£844m) in military aid which Washington will give to Cairo this year.

ice assaul

MODPENDENT

Caught on tape

Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan - The government of the former Soviet republic of Kyrgyzstan accepted the resignation of the interior minister, who was taped offering jobs to dismissed police officers. Modalbek Moldashev offered his resignation after a newspaper on Friday reported a conversation Moldashev allegedly had with two officers whose dismissal had been ordered by President Askar Akayev.

Communist charge

Riga, Latvia - Eight former members of the Latvian Communist Party have been indicted for lying about their political activities, the Latvian daily Dihlatant an electoral gambit. taken against the family or ena reported. The eight, now Yossi Sarid. leader of Meretz. home of Baruch Goldstein, the members of the Socialist Party. are charged with concealing Communist Party activities after the party was outlawed in the former Soviet republic on 13 January 1991.

Monks still alive

Paris - Seven French Trappist monks kidnapped by suspected Muslim militants from their monastery in Algeria last Wednesday are still alive and could be hidden in ahandoned mines, said Algerian newspaper El Watan. .

UN investigation

Abuja — A United Nations team has started an investigation into the execution by Nigeria of nine minority rights activists which sparked international outrage and led to sanctions against the country. Sources in the capital Abuja yesterday said the four-man UN team had met with lawyers from the activists' trial. Reuter

Last orders please

Hanoi — Vietnam's Prime Min-ister Vo Van Kiet has ordered a clampdown on alcohol con-sumption, saying it wastes mon-ey and time and damages social morality, the Lao Dong news-paper said, quoting the Prime Minister as saying "society has a had habit of excessive feasting and boozing".

Final farewell to HK

Hong Kong - The Royal Navy issued a final roll call yesterday to hundreds of locals who joined the Navy as deck hands. cabin boys and cooks. The Navy launched an appeal to local Chinese who once served in the Hong Kong squadron to attend formal ceremonies marking the Navy's withdrawal from the colony next year when Britain



Peaceful plea: A Palestinian girl in Hebron holding a placard protesting against Israel's closure of the West Bank and Gaza Photograph: Reuter

Vatican accused of muzzling maverick

JUDE WEBBER

Vatican City --- Maverick Zam-hian Archhishop Emmanuel faith-healing and exorcism cer-emonies and that he felt he had to speak out.

Milingo's controversial methods have sparked fierce de-bate within the Church over how far African spiritual traditions can be married with

Catholic liturgical practice.
"Up until now, Milingo has never defended himself, he has always obeyed," the 65-year-old African told a congregation in Rome. "And I've been made fun of too. Now I must reflect deeply. I cannot just shut up.

Milingo, who was recalled to Rome in April 1982, resigned as Archbishop of Lusaka in August 1983, after pressure from the Vatican, which subsequently appointed him as a special del-

for Migrants and Itinerants. Yesterday, he said that Vatican Secretary of State Cardinal Angelo Sodano had written, urg-

firmed that Cardinal Sodano sent Milingo "a letter in the name of the Holy Father, re-calling the general principle in force throughout the Church whereby pastoral and liturgical activities must be carried out in contact with the local hishop

Milingo began his service with a request for all "our hrothers who are possessed" to be taken aside because Sodano had written to tell him he must

egate to the Pontifical Council

Likud was expected to accuse Labour of planning to evacuate Israeli settlements in the occupied territories, divide Jerusalem and allow the return of

Milingo said yesterday that the Roman Catholic Church wanted to muzzle his unorthodox Grant Market and South and Within the Chief Church wanted to muzzle his unorthodox Joaquin Navarro-Valls con-

and under his coordination".

not conduct "para-liturgy". Milingo, who was ordained in

1958 and said he discovered the "gift of healing" in 1973, admits he does not fit in, but says his unorthodox powers stem from his devotion to Christ. "I do what I do in the name of God."

Palestinian refugees. Mr Peres will now be able to say that Israelis will have a chance to decide about these issues after the election on 29 May.

The exercise may be too the left-wing ally of Labour, said: "This move is intended to cynically hlur all political lines and neutralise the campaign of any substantive discussion and

Labour believes the promise to hold a referendum before withdrawing from the Golan heights, as part of a peace agreement with Syria, has suc-ceeded in defusing the issue in the eyes of Israeli voters.

Mr Peres wants to do the same with the "final status" talks between Israel and the Palestinians, which are due to start on 4 May and end by 1999. The announcement of the

referendum is more bad news for Mr Arafat. But he has little choice, except to hope Mr Peres is re-elected. Binyamin Ne-tanyahu, the leader of Likud, says he would not reverse the Oslo accords, but his interpretation of them would leave Palestinians with little more than municipal autonomy.

At the same time, the sealing

lead to another spate of suicide bombs, which might finally ruin his hopes of electoral victory. Army chief 'covered up' torture

HUGH WINSOR

An attempted cover-up of several incidents, including the torture and death of a Somali teenager while a prisoner of Canadian peace-keepers in Somalia, may have been directed by the chief of the defence staff and the top civilian official in the Department of National Defence. New evidence has come this week hefore a judicial inquiry investigating the breakdown of discipline in the now-disbanded Canadian Airborne Regiment.

Earlier this year, there was evidence before the inquiry that documents were destroyed and others hidden. But on Monday, Justice Gilles Letourneau. chairman of the inquiry, announced investigators had discovered that computerised records of communications between the regiment in Somalia and the operations centre at defence headquarters had been modified and partly erased. Experts believe only the most

senior officials could have approved such erasures. All communications logs from the borne Regiment during Febru- with excrement and led him regiment in Somalia during the ary and March of 1993, when it around on a chain like a dog.

have also disappeared, the

A colonel headed the defence department's information services has said the plan to destroy the documents was approved by General John de Chastelain, who just retired as chief of defence staff in December, General Jean Boyle, who succeeded him, and Robert Fowler, Canada's ambassador to the United Nations who was then deputy defence minister.

The behaviour of the Air-

part of the UN attempt to restore order in Somalia has hiotted Canada's reputation for peace-keeping. A corporal and two privates have been con-victed of torturing and killing a youth. In another incident, a patrol shot and killed two unarmed civilians as they ran away from the Canadian compound.

The regiment was disbanded about a year ago following the broadcast of an amateur video of a ritual in which white soldiers smeared a hlack member

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Dole ponders White House running mate

RUPERT CORNWELL

IN BRIEF

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Cament on tage

All-but-anointed as the 1996 Republican nominee but far behind Bill Clinton in the polls, Senator Bob Dole of Kansas has repaired to Florida for a welldeserved Easter holiday - and a chance to ponder the next vital decision of his campaign; who to pick as his running mate this autumn.

Normally, runs the conventional wisdom, the decision matters little. With the possible exceptions of Lyndon Johnson in 1960, widely credited with helping John Kennedy carry Texas, and of Dan Quayle who may have cost George Busb a ouple of points in both 1988 and 1992, there is scant evidence that a Vice Presidential candicate has ever had much impact on the final outcome. This time, however, it could be different.

For one thing, Mr Dole at 73 would be the oldest man in history to enter the White House, should he win on 5 November. Never would the proverbial heartbeat from the Presidency" factor - which perhaps weighed against Mr Quayle have been so important. Second. this time a possible candidate does exist, apparently unavailable to be sure, hut who every poll suggests would make a huge difference. That man is retired general Colin Powell.

PRESIDENTIAL ELECTIONS SEC

mer Joint Chiefs chairman has unequivocally ruled himself out of consideration. For weeks, associates have been insisting that nothing has changed since last November, when Gen Powell announced he would neither seek the White House, nor be Vice Presidential nominee on any other Republican ticket.

But speculation will not abate so easily - certainly not when every theoretical match-up shows Mr Dole and anyone else trounced by Clinton/Gore, but a Dole/Powell combination with a decent chance of victory. And as far as anyone knows, the commentators wistfully observe,

Gen Powell has not heen asked. But if not Colin Powell then who? Until last week, the re-sponse might well have heen Christine Todd Whitman, Governor of New Jersey, a state Mr Dolc would love to win, perhaps has to win. And she has other advantages. She is young, personally and politically attractive, an economic conservative but social moderate who can appeal to both the new breed of "Contract with America" Republicans and the centrists and independents whose support is vital in a general election. If taken at his word, the for- Above all, by picking a woman,

the hyper-cautious Kansan bold strike. The only problem is that on 27 March Mrs Whitman issued a pre-emptive 'Thanks, but No Thanks".

At which point, the calculations revert to normal, dictated above all by the arithmetic of the electoral college. To win, Mr Dole must put together a coalition of the South and the Rockie Mountain and Plains states. plus the so-called "Rust belt" of the Midwest - the old industrial heartland of Illinois, Ohio, Michigan and Wisconsin where Mr Clinton currently leads by

10 to 20 per cent in the polls. Scant co-incidence, therefore, that the Republican governors of all four of those states are plainly in the running. Undoubted favourite among them is John Engler of Michigan, followed by, in declining order of Ohio, Tommy Thompson of 21 electoral college votes.

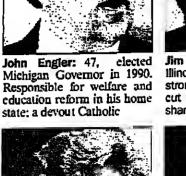
Wisconsin, and Jim Edgar of could show he is capable of the Illinois. Like another name sometimes mentioned, South Carolina's former Governor Carroll Campbell, all four are shrewd political operatives. But all lack the élan and stump appeal Mr Dole sorely needs.

So other names have emerged to fill the Easter political vacuum. One is John McCain, the respected Arizona senator, a military hero from the Vietnam war whose backing for a balanced budget and reform of Washington's financial ways might persuade Ross Perot not to run. Another is Congressman John Kasich, at 43 a political stripling but already chairman of the House Budget Committee and a pillar of the 1994 "Republican Revolution". Unlike most Gingrich revolutionaries, however, he is cheerful, smiling and also happens to likelihood, George Voinovich of come from Ohio, possessor of





Responsible for welfare and education reform in his home



Christine Todd Whitman: former US Senate of New Jersey in 1993. Highly popular in her home state



Jim Edgar: 49, Governor of Welfare reformer, Illinois. strong on law-and-order, has cut state government payroll



Gen Colin Powell: 58, former national security adviser and candidate, elected Governor chairman of the joint chiefs of staff. The most admired figure in US public life

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Police assault caught on tape

JEFF WONG Associated Press

South El Monte - Sheriff's deputies were videotaped beating two suspected illegal immigrants with batons after a 70-mile chase.

One deputy, holding his ba-ton two-handed like a baseball hat, swung repeatedly at a person prostrate beneath him. A handcuffed woman was slammed against the pickup truck involved in the chase. About 20 suspected illegal imimmigrants are Mercean and the deputies are white.

It's another Rodney King," said Ramona Ripston, executive director of the American Civil Liherties Union of Southern California, referring to the 1991 case when four white officers were videotaped beating a black

The South El Monte videotape was shot by two news helicopters overhead. The

unidentified male driver suffered hruises and a possible fractured elbow from the baton blows, said Sergeant Mark Lohman, spokesman for the Riverside County Sheriff's Department. Sgt Lohman said the other oc-

cupants were uninjured.

The group was taken to an Immigration and Naturalisation Service centre for ques-

The sheriff's department immediately launched an internal investigation and placed two deputies on paid administrative migrants were packed into the leave. The deputies' names embarrassed and we're seriously concerned about the actions of our officers," Sgt

Lohman said. The chase began when the pickup truck driver refused to stop for Border Patrol officials. They suspected illegal immigrants were aboard because the truck was on a road frequently used to bypass a checkpoint about 60 miles north of

The rush hour noise of traffic can reach levels equivalent to the level.at which employees in excessively noisy work places can legally demand ear protectors. This silent killer is linked to heart disease, cancers and high blood pressure. Illness and worry caused by a polluted environment can be a contributory factor. CATARACTS. Thinning ozone in the upper layer of the Earth's atmosphere is now known to have caused an increase in eye cataracts.

EAR DAMAGE.

LUNG CANCER. An estimated 5% of lung cancers may be due to radon gas

occuring naturally in areas of granite geology like Cornwall or Devon. The Government does little to help.

RESPIRATORY ILLNESS.

High levels of sulphur dioxide, nitrous oxides and ozone in the air are linked directly to bronchitis and severe breathing

VOMITORG FITS.

People in houses built on landfill sites where toxic chemicals had been dumped have become chronically ill. Such sites can seriously affect the health of those who live near them.

HEPATITIS.

If you swim or surf off many of Britain's beach resorts, you run the risk of hepatitis, diarrhoea and skin complaint because what you are bathing in may be dilute sewage.

People working with petrol run

a higher risk of getting leukaemias. Petrol contains many volatile organic compounds, which can cause cancer.

TRAFFIC INJURIES.

Each year some 3,800 people are killed and 45,000 seriously injured on our roads.

HEURAL DAMAGE.

Up to 10,000 deaths a year in Exposure to pesticides in sheep dip has led to 43 farmers being England and Wales are linked to hospitalised and may lead to long PM-10 particulate pollution from traffic furnes and 1,200 people term damage to the nervous are estimated to die prematurely

EXTRAWOITER DEATHS.

Between 40-60,000 people, most old and infirm, needlessly die each winter of respiratory and cardinvascular diseases, largely due to a combination of poor energy efficiency in homes and poverty.

BREAST CANCER. Women who are exposed to

hazardous toric wastes are thought to run a higher risk of getting breast cancer and other

HEART DISEASE. Britain's No. 1 killer. Sedentary

infestyles are a huge contributory factor. Today many children do not walk and dare not cycle. thanks to the culture of the car.

KIDNEY DAMAGE.

Has been linked to high levels of lead in blood. Lead is taken into the body via dnnking water and an estimated nine million homes

INTELLIGENCE.

Lead in drinking water impairs children's IQ, and can cause retardation and nervous disorders. Hundreds of thousands of people in Britain are supplied with water that breaks WHO safety limits for lead.

ASTHMA.

I in every 7 British children suffers from asthma. Traffic furnes are known to make acthma attacks worse. Asthma costs Britain an estimated £420 million every year.

BIRTH DEFECTS.

Dioxins, very toruc chemicals formed in processes such as incinerators burning PVC and other products which contain chlorine. pose an especially severe risk to

FALLING SPERM COUNTL

foetuses and newborn infants.

Dramatic falls in sperm count have been linked with femalehormone-mimicking pollutants in the food chain.

SKIN CANCER.

The destruction of the ocone layer and more foreign holidays have contributed to a huge increase in skin cancers which can kill if not caught in time.

POISONING The Government warns us to peel our carrots. Pestiode and herboide residues in fruit and veg can cause stomach cramps. US studies show that farm workers heavily exposed to weedwiler may develop cancers.

For years Friends of the Earth has warned that abusing our environment and failing to adopt policies that ensure clean food, water and air for all would damage people's health. It's not just beef. You have a right to know what is in to the air you breathe, the water you drink and the food you eat. The information above is taken from our research study on health and the environment 'Prescription for Change'. At a time when answers to the health crisis are sorely needed our work is in everyone's interests. Our health and our environment are at stake. We must ensure Government and industry act. Your help is vital in pushing for-

ward the solutions. Please give as much as you can. Join our campaigns. Join us now by filling in the coupon. Call 01582 482297 to send a donation or to order a copy of 'Prescription for Change', £5.95 (203 pages). For other information about our campaigns please call 0171 490 1555.

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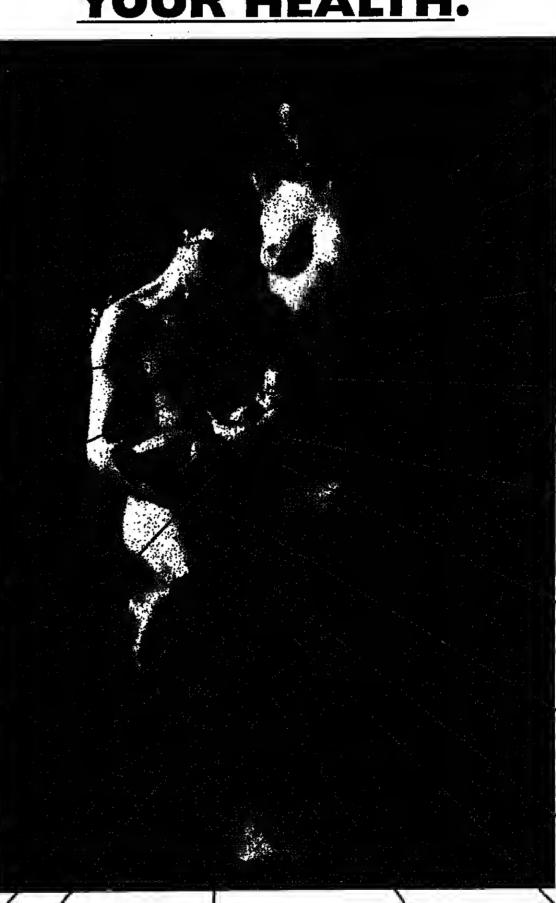
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FRIENDS of the





Back in the USSR: Deal falls short of re-creating Soviet Union but provokes anger on streets of Minsk and concern in West

Russia and Belarus strike up partnership

HELEN WOMACK

Thousands of Belarussians cast off their national stereotype as leader, President Alexander signed a treaty with President Boris Yeltsin on integration with Russia. The agreement stopped short, however, of cre-

when Belarussians thought the President was about to surrender their national sovereignty. passive people and took to the streets of Minsk last night in defiance of their conservative Yeltsin and Mr Lukashenko launched their Community of Lukashenko, who had earlier Sovereign Republics, which creates the closest economic and political partnership of any ex-Soviet republics.

Because Belarus is in deeper economic trouble than Rus-

smaller than one last month. pressing for the closest possible relationship. But Mr Yeltsin has been more cautious, lest Belarus becomes a burden.

Under the deal, each side will preserve its independence, territorial integrity, flag and na-tional anthem. The republics will co-ordinate foreign policy and work out common defence principles. By the end of next year they aim to have their economic reforms synchronised, so that a common market be-

Yesterday's peaceful rally was sia, Mr Lukashenko has been comes possible. "This document opens a qualitatively new stage in the history of our two brotherly peoples," Mr Yelstin said at the ceremony in the Kremlin's St George's Hall. Mr Lukashenko said Belarus and Russia were following the example of the European Union.

The new mini-community is open to other members of the post-Soviet Commonwealth of Independent States but they have preferred to keep a greater

Yeltsin, who is running for reelection in June. Under pressure from the Communists, calling for the restoration of the Soviet Union, he will be able to tell voters that his alternative polity of seeking voluntary inte-gration among ex-Soviet republics is bearing fruit.

But he cannot yet say the same about his plan to end the Chechnya war, seen as crucial to his chances of winning a second term. Yesterday the

The signing is a boost for Mr Chechen separatist leader, Dzhokhar Dudayev, wielded his power to influence the election and kept his enemy in the Kremlin waiting for a response to his peace initiative.

Fighting continued in Chechnya despite Mr Yeltsin's announcement of an end to military operations and a partial troop pull-out. On Sunday he said a campaign last mouth had left federal forces controlunits not needed for the fight against "terrorists". He called for parliamentary elections and, surprisingly, offered talks through mediators with General Dudayev, whom Moscow has up

to now called a criminal. But 48 hours after Mr Yeltsin's speech there was a resounding silence from the mountains of southern Chech-nya, where General Dudayev has hidden since being forced ling two-thirds of Chechen ter- out of his capital, Grozny, last ritory, enabling a withdrawal of year. In a telephone call to Russ-

ers said the Muslim Chechens would not respond officially until their top leadership had met. But General Dudayev's spokesman, Movladi Udugov. gave a fair indication of the likely reaction when he told Ekho Moskvy radio: "All the political steps taken by the Russian side can be no more than pre-election action with the aim of raising Yeltsin's authority and making him Russian president for a second term.

Bulgaria protests against new pact

Central Europe Correspondent

Thousands of Bulgarians took to the streets of Sofia vesterday to profest against recent moves by Russia to draw the country! into a new Moscow-led pact.

The demonstrators denounced comments by the Russian President, Boris Yeltsin, that a recent agreement between Moscow and the former Soviet republics of Belarus. Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan could be expanded to include "other countries ... perbaps, for example, Bulgaria".

They also called on their own socialist-led government to issue an unequivocal rejection of Moscow's proposal and to re-confirm Bulgaria's essentially pro-Western orientation.

Valentin Vassilev, an MP from the opposition Union of Democratic Forces (UDF), said: "We have to make it clear that we do not want to get sucked into some sort of Soviet Union Mark II."

Last Friday's agreement between Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan essentially concerned the strengthening of economic ties and was an important step to-wards Moscow's goal of achieving a rapprochement between the former Soviet republics. Yesterday, Russia and Belarus went considerably further, agreeing a bilateral treaty on

The singling out of Bulgaria as a potential future partner provoked uproar in Sofia. sparking speculation that the overnment - in the hands of what opponents perceive to be Moscow-friendly former comvolved in secret negotiations.

Government spokesmen have denied that a deal has been struck, hut their criticisms of Mr Yeltsin's remarks have been noticeably muted.

Moscow and **Kiev find** way to solve fleet dispute

CHRISTOPHER BELLAMY Defence Correspondent

Russia and Ukraine are close to signing a deal ending the long dispute over the Black Sea Fleet, clearing up one of the most intractable problems arising from the division of the former Soviet Union.

Agreement follows a meeting hetween Pavel Grachev, the Russian Defence Minister, and his Ukrainian counterpart, Valeriy Shmarov, in Tysovets, westcrn Ukraine, last week. They also agreed to transfer 25 strategic bombers, capable of carrying nuclear weapons, to Russia in exchange for various other based at Sevastopol but in a sep-aircraft. Mr Shmarov said he arate harbour from the Rusfavoured a "protracted" en-largement of Naio io the east hut insisted Ukraine would not ioin any military blocs, neither Nato nor a revived military alliance based on Russia.

The former Soviet Union's Black Sea Fleet is bigger than the Royal Navy. Its 28 submarines, 31 major surface warships and 88 smaller vessels are based at Sevasiopol, in the Cramea, which Khrushchev gave Ukraine in the 1960s and which remained part of the new state when it separated from the Soviet Union in 1991. The Black Sea Fleet also has more than 200 aircraft.

General Grachev said on Friday that he was confident the issue would soon be resolved. Mr Shmarov said there were three separate agreements: dividing the fleet; where the Ukrainian component should be hased; and settling debts. Division of the fleet bas already been agreed: the Russians will get the higgest surface ships, including 1 helicopter-carrier and four

while Ukraine will get smaller warships. Georgia, on the eastern coast of the Black Sea, is also likely to get two warships under of the deal.

Among the submarines to he kept by Russia is an experimental craft called the Beluga, which appears to be powered by batteries alone, and which, unlike other non-nuclear suhmarines, does not need to surface for air. The Black Sea's shallow waters are ideal for trials with experimental craft. The sticking-point in the dis-

pute has been the hases. Ukraine wants its ships to be sians, so that the two fleets stay out of each other's way: Russia wants Sevastopol to itself and the Ukrainian Fleet to be based at Odessa.

The Russian Air Force commander, Colonel-General Pyotr Devnekin, said the 25 strategic bombers - 10 Tu-160 Blackjacks and 15 Tu-95 Bears - would be returned to Russia from their hases at Uzin and Priluki. Ukraine will also transfer about 300 air-to-ground guided missiles to Russia.

In return, the Russians will Commonwealth of Indepensend Ukraine transport planes, dent States. helicopters, eight MiG-29s and four Su-27 aircraft.

bombers to Russia is consistent with the agreed policy that it should be the nuclear successor state to the Soviet Union. Most of the nuclear missiles based in Ukraine have now heen returned to Russia.

According to the International Institute for Strategic Studies, only a few SS-18 mis-

Most Russian troops have most effective are probably also been largely withdrawn from former Soviet republics. although special contingents have been sent into problem ar-

ian troops in Tajikistan and an 11,000-strong Russian-Turkmen force in Turkmenistan. There are also two Russian contingents in Georgia: a 3,000-strong peace-keeping detachment in Ahkhazia and an 800-strong Russian battalion in South Ossetia. There is also a 1,600strong detachment from the Russian 14th Army in Moldo-

va. The other former Soviet re-

publics are militarily weak. The

Ukraine and Belarus, which retain some modern equipment and reasonably large forces, although their ability to conduct eas as peace-keepers for the military operations on any scale

former Soviet republics are suffering the same problems as those of Russia, including cash starvation and lack of recruits but without the modern equipment and infrastructure which has enabled Moscow to maintain some élite units at a reasonable level of efficiency.

The most efficient armed forces are prohably those of the Baltic states. They are receiving Western training and equipment but are very small.



This week in meindependent

This week and every week, Section Two has a completely new look, with more pages, new features, a daily radio column and an expanded listings section providing Britain's most comprehensive daily guide to going out.

in Today

Tony Blair and Bill Clinton: are they destined for a special relationship? Global warming and you: man made perils that will affect us all. The new Family Life section looks into how to backpack without tears. Do we need... Dennis the Menace: Jim White conducts a personal investigation into whether there is a place in the modern world for the classical naughty boy. Julie Myerson meanwhile takes her naughty boy to the

on Tuesday

Part three of The Scorched Earth: how do we slow down the global warming process? Plus: Health - the mother of a brain-injured teenager

Theatre: "Jeckyll: the musical" opened in Bromley last: week. What are the chances of a West End transfer. We talk to the backers and review the show. Plus: midweek travel section, your money, finance and law.

on Thursday

All our regular features, including Dilemmas, John Walsh's column, plus film, education and graduate

24Seven - a new 20-page pull-out-and-keep entertainment and listings section. Including a complete day-by-day planner for the week ahead, plus hairdressers. Plus Network: the complete PC guide.

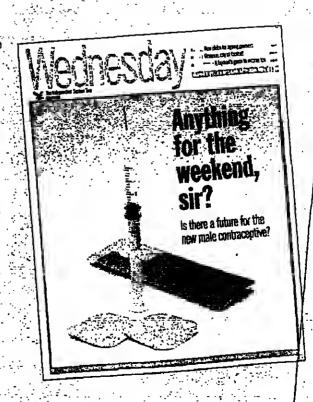
A 24 page section with all the action from a big weekend of sport. Plus: The Monday interview: Vicente Modahl on masterminding Diane's redemption. The Grand National: the agony of the waiting game. And it's an all-red FA Cup Final, Liverpool vs Manchester United, dream or nightmare?

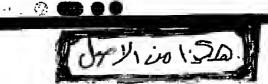
is convinced she has found a treatment to help her son. Also on Tuesday, fashion, architecture, visual arts

In our back pages, Martin Newell, Britain's leading rock poet, and Neil Kerber, one of the country's funniest cartoonists, present their views of the modern

plus, in the back pages, William Hartston's history of the world in 101/2 inches

seven-day TV, radio and satellite listings, ticket offers and informed comment on the week's highlights. Plus: eight pages of pop and classical music





NEW WORLD

cocern in West

protests

against

new pact

ADRIAN BRIDGE

By Burn

Singled Out?

It's the year 1999. Several European states led by Germany and France are about to go ahead with a single European currency. The British referendum on the issue is nigh. How would you vote? Yvette Cooper weighs the arguments

THE CASE FOR: GOING IN

So that's it, they've gone and done it. The mark and Bulgaria the franc are to be no more. and British exporters are having to grapple with calculating in the euro

Those in the "Join Up"

camp are having a hard time persuading voters in Britain's forthcoming referendum to listen to the rather dull economic arguments for joining the single currency. they want to convince us that the benefits - in terms of lower inflation and higher productivity - will be significant. But that is not their main argument. More important, they believe the costs of staying outside a new "Euro-hlock", even for a short period, will be immense.

Signing up to submerge sterling within the euro, they maintain, will be good for Britain's macro-economic stability. By that they mean German fiscal and monetary discipline will be good medicine for British inflation. Historically, Britain has a had record for controlling inflation compared with our European counterparts, and Germany in particular. Inadequate levels of investment and training, and a tendency towards wage inflation, bave remained persistent economic problems for decades. Many economists believe that Britain will never make the difficult decisions to tackle those underlying problems with its economic performance while it can still devalue its currency as a way to make its exports __competitive.

When British goods become too expensive to compete ahroad, the easiest thing to do is let the pound fail in value, so goods become cheaper on foreign shelves. The trouble with that is that it starts the inflationary cycle all over again. If we cannot locked into the euro - we will have to sort out our inflationary problems once and for all. Tough medicine -

but worth it in the long run. Even those who don't have such a grim view of the British economy accept that joining the euro will make it easier to convince the financial markets that we are serious about keeping inflation low. The financial markets will view sterling as a

weaker currency and a greater inflationary risk outside the euro. As a result. British interest rates would need to be higher. (The technical explanation is that higher interest rates will be needed to offset the risk for investors that inflation would eat into the value of assets

valued in sterling.) Christopher Taylor, of the National Institute for Economic and Social Research, has suggested that interest rates could be 0.75 to I per cent lower inside the single currency, with huge long-term benefits for investment levels in Britain.

The impact of a single currency will not be limited to interest rates and inflation. Businesses will feel the benefits directly. Most tangible of all will be the savings to frequent travellers and traders who no longer have to pay middle men every time they change currency. But as much of Britain's trade is still with countries outside the euro region, the henefits to the country as a whole will

David Miles, the senior UK economist at Merrill Lynch, the US finance house, suggests we will save only 0.2 per cent of GDP from the benefits of not having to change currencies when trading in Europe - bardly so overwhelming a benefit that we must to join up.

There may be less predictable benefits to husinesses, however. The fiercest enthusiasts for a single currency argue that a truly single European market is impossible without it. If firms operate without any regard for national borders, there could be significant productivity gains as they take advantage of huge markets to specialise and make economies of scales. Wider competition should drive

The larger risk is that France and Germany will be so annoyed at Britain's failure to join the single currency that they will renege on their commitment to allow us the privileges of the single market. They will form an inner European core from which we will be excluded. Legally, they can't discriminate against British companies, or erect trade barriers against countries

outside the single currency. But covert barriers could be considerable. Britain could be at a disadvantage in any industry where personal contacts make a difference, or where government is mvolved in

procuring contracts. If trade harriers no matter how discreet - started to emerge, we could say bye-bye to Far The car plants and the electronics factories built in Britain by inward investor from the Far East are aimed at European markets. Future inward investors might switch to the euro countries if they felt

"Join Up" campaign, even dithering and delaying a single currency until a later date is too costly. Britain will be excluded from discussions about the European Central Bank, left out of critical European economic policy meetings and generally left unloved by our European partners. That price might

Britain was out on a limb. For the not be paid for a long time but it could be high indeed.

THE CASE FOR: STAYING OUT

The risks, on the other

functioning of the British

considerable. For those in

favour of Britain joining a

the "stay-outs" however, a

single Euro-wide interest

rate is a clumsy economic

countries reacting to the

problems that beset them.

point. Interest rates and

exchange rates are useful

tools for helping economies

adjust to shocks. If countries

are affected in different ways

responses to help them cope.

goes into recession, demand

for British goods is affected

demand for other European

interest rates could ease the

prevent a recession. But in

the new world of the euro,

that kind of adjustment

won't he possible.

pressure on British firms and

The stay-outs argue that

this kind of thing will happen

all the time: the British and

inevitably beset by different

kinds of problems. The right

German economies are so

different that they are

by economic changes, they

can need very different

For example, if America

far more strongly than

goods. A cut in British

They have a very good

particular economic

tool which prevents different

single currency, a single

Euro-wide interest-rate

policy is a good thing

hand, to the overall

economy could be

The "stay-out" campaign is are therefore - they maintain - insignificant. economic case for resisting French and German encouragement and staying out of a new single currency - at least for the time being. They argue that the competitive gains from European integration will all be achieved in the single because it prevents Britain indulging in inflation. For without the extra

single

handing over control of monetary and fiscal policy to Europe could

currency. At

the same

Relaxed about the risks of provoking French and German

protectionism, they maintain that the existence of different currencies is not a hig obstacle to a single market. So long as firms are spared variations in technical specification, customs and excise restrictions, and direct harriers to trade, there should be little to prevent them producing and selling without regard to national borders. The competitive gains from a single currency

interest rate reaction in one country could mean recession and unemployment in the other. There is a further reason why Britain and the core euro countries should not be subject to the same monetary policy: they respond in different ways to changes in interest rates. In Britain we are beavily dependent on and consumers scream. In

mortgages. If interest rates go up, mortgage repayments rise, 1990 around 10 per cent of household income in Britain was taken up with debt repayments, compared to 3.2 per cent in Germany and 3.7 per cent in France. Businesses have lower debts in Britain than in the euro core countries, hut we are more

dependent on variable interest rates. The result is that a 1 per cent rise in interest rates to choke off inflationary pressures in France and Germany could be far more damaging in Britain.

Joining the euro also means losing control over fiscal policy. Under the Maastricht criteria, and under the proposed "stability pact" rules for countries inside the single currency, national governments must not horrow more than a specified amount each year. This gives countries even less freedom to manoeuvre when coping with their distinctive economic problems. The single currency fans have a retort here, however. To make a single currency work, all the euro countries would need to share the hurdens of unexpected economic shocks, transferring cash to the country that most needed it. True, there is not yet much political support for taxing the French to give to the Brits, but it is not entirely unworkable. Even without a single currency, Europe is preparing to bear much of the cost for compensating British farmers for the damage done

un Ju ti

: to

500

The stay-out campaign has one further advantage on its side. It will be joined by many people who accept the arguments for the euro in principle, but want to dither a little longer hefore committing Britain to a great and possibly very expensive experiment

Initial teething troubles could be costly for everyone involved, and economic tensions hetween member countries could yet pull the whole thing apart. Of course there are costs to waiting and joining later on. But there are even higger costs to joining now and pulling out again. Meanwhile a few more years of integration in the single market could lead to greater convergence in the way countries respond to different economic changes, so all the problems generated by a single European interest rate might he reduced. All things considered, they might prefer to wait and see.

DIARY J

Rooms at the top

Fancy a discreet little London pad? Not a bad view - well, the whole of London, actually. And a snip at £40,000. The BT Telecom Tower, one



of Britain's most famous landmarks, is for sale. Imagin the one-upmanship yon stroll through Regent's Park. See that little monolith there? Mine, you know. Can't invite you in, I'm afraid. That is the one snag in the coming

transaction. The new owner will not actually be allowed to set foot inside his or her new property, which will contime to be a BT communications centre. The inwer will be sold on I7 April, with the buyer entitled to an interest payment of £2,500 per annum until the

According to Harman Healy Anctioneers and Valuers, the tower does not come with parking space but would make an interesting conversation piece. John Barnett, nne of the anctioneers, believes that although the owner of the building will ant have any rights over it, it would make a great "trophy property". "The sort of people whn'll buy something like this dn it just for fan. Some people buy antiques they never use nr store nut of sight. Others do it with property. I personally own a small island in Scotland."

Peaks and troughs of Marylebone

The Marylebone Mountaineering Chub may not face much of a challenge from local peaks, but the club clearly gives its

memhers a splendid service. Only the most pertinent speakers will do. Last year it ran a "triumphant lecture" on climbing safety, delivered by one Julie-Ann Clyma. Now, this year, members are invited to a talk on walking safety, given by ... Kevin Walker.

A novel view of women writers

What a shame, Joanna Trollope has cast aside the working title of her new novel. The book, set on a farm, had the admirable working title Udders, which

if you ask me. Now the novel, to be published in May, has the less evocative title Next Of In an interview

to be published tomorrow in Good Housekeeping mag-azine, Trollope

philosophises about the art of writing, quoting Dr Johnson's maxim that "nohody but a blockhead ever wrote except for money". Alas, some of her fellow female novelists bave not grasped this hasic economic fact, it seems. She confides: "I know a clutch had a highly marketable ring about it, of women writers, some of them very

ere not invited to

ncerings), Cermans and French. In heart of European policy

train attractive to inward investors

ore Bureau de Change - for tourists

in East who want to sell to Europe



good, who are married to affluent men. And really, all the hand-wringing and hrow-cintching that goes on hefore they write a wordl I sometimes wish they had to do it to pay the gas

Retains the UKS abjuryed use face rates and Europe gates to compel distinctive economic presience + 510 price changes

Britain more sensitive to interest safe so many of us have more ages.

EMU might be immitigated disaster.
 better to wait and see new in works.

Names please, Joanna. Or we will simply have to speculate about which hand-wringing rich men's wives you could possibly mean.

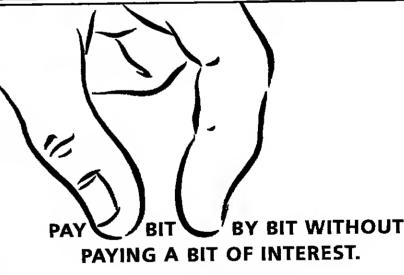
Politicians are getting there, but later

For much of 1994 and 1995, successive transport secretaries boasted about their plans to privatise the railways. Optimistically, they committed themselves to having over 50 per cent of the railways in private hands by 1 April 1996. Such promises nearly always come back to haunt politicians, especially if they are made for April Fool's Day. So Brian Mawhinney. John Mac-Gregor and the current secretary, Sir George Young, will have been delighted that no one noticed that only two lines, representing 17 per cent of the railway network, were in private hands by 1 April, which means they missed the target by two-thirds.

Gin, lord of the ring

After the recent difficulties for Gordon's Gin over whether or not to supply the liquor for the launch of the Denis Thatcher biography, I have some good news for the company. The Moscow State Circus, touring the UK all this summer, has demanded that its contracts be changed from one bottle of vodka to one bottle of gin a fortnight. The performers were introduced to it by their English ringmaster, Chris Baltrop, and have, according to one member, decided that vodka is "like drinking petrol". And they used to be such a patriotic lot.

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NDEPENDENT

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Back in the

Less than five years after the Soviet Union's collapse, Russia is taking steps to bring as many former Soviet republics as possible back under its wing. Last Friday, President Boris Yeltsin and the leaders of Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan signed a treaty creating a "community of integrated states". Yesterday, Russia and Belarus went even further, establishing a union that is intended to have a common foreign and defence policy, a single currency, united transport and energy systems and much more.

Mr Yeltsin contends that this agreement does not undermine the sovereignty of Belarus. He even suggests it will merely create a sort of Eurasian equivalent of the European Union. He is fooling no one. This will be a Moscow-led union. Only token symbols of independence will be left to Belarus if the treaty is implemented in full.

The larger issue is whether the latest accords are hut a prelude to a Russian attempt to recreate the Soviet Union or - since history never exactly repeats itself - a new union of states subservient to Moscow. This is not as implausible a prospect as it seemed even six months ago. Restoring the Soviet Union is one of the central ingredients in the programme of Gennady Zyuganov, the Communist leader who is poised to defeat Mr Yeltsin in June's presidential elections.

Mr Yeltsin's cagerness to rush through the treaties can be interpreted as an attempt to steal as much of Mr Zyuganov's electoral thunder as possible. But it is not just a tactical ploy. It is certainly not economically inspired: a reconstituted union would probably cost Moscow money. Like most Russians, Mr Yeltsin has never found it easy to embrace the idea that states such as Ukraine, Belarus and Kazakhstan, where ethnic Russians have lived for generations, should be genuinely independent. It is no accident that Russians coincd the term "the near abroad" to describe the former Soviet republies. The phrase implies a unilateral Russian right to circumscribe the independence of these states.

Still, we must not lose sight of the fact that Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan signed the new treaties freely and without Russian coercion, Belarus has never developed a strong sense of separate firmly, as possible.

nationhood and, in the absence of firm Western support for its independence, it was virtually inevitable that it would drift back under Russia's shadow. Kazakhstan, with a large ethnic Russian community in northern regions bordering Russia, and a potentially meddlesome China to its east, has good reasons to forge closer links with Moscow. It also makes economic sense for the former Soviet republics of Central Asia to deepen their ties with Russia.

So far, so good. But in other parts of the former Soviet Union, Russia has applied pressure on independent states to dilute their sovereignty. This is particularly true in Transcaucasia, where the Kremlin manipulated internal political and ethnic disputes to bring Azerbaijan and Georgia back into a Moscow-led fold. Last year Russia persuaded Armenia and Georgia to grant it the right to maintain military bases on their soil. In Moldova, which borders Ukraine. Russia agreed to pull out its troops. But it would like to keep a military presence there as a way of reminding Ukraine never to threaten Russia's interests.

Clearly, Russia's leaders suffer from a temptation to exert pressure on neigh-bours whose independence they have not fully come to terms with. The West must make it clear to the Russian leadership that such pressure will be wholly unacceptable if it is used to coerce the Ukraine into joining the Russia-Belarus union. The Ukraine is of much greater significance than other states that have already drifted back towards Moscow. It has a population of more than 50 million and prodigious agricultural resources. Ukraine's leaders show no sign of wanting their state to be transformed into a satellite of Moscow. They must be free to decide their country's destiny.

This is equally true for the Baltic states and the former Communist countries of eastern Europe. In an extraordinary and rather alarming remark last Friday, Mr Yeltsin suggested that Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania could sign the treaty uniting Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. Perhaps he had a memory lapse: the independence of eastern Europe is absolutely not up for discussion. If he did forget, Western leaders should remind him of this point as politely, but

Howard's wayward

We face a clear threat from terror-ism," said the Home Secretary yesterday. Yes, but do also face a threat from Howardism? The way the Government has rushed to amend the Prevention of Terrorism Act to extend police powers to stop, search and cordon has Michael Howard's fingerprints all over it.

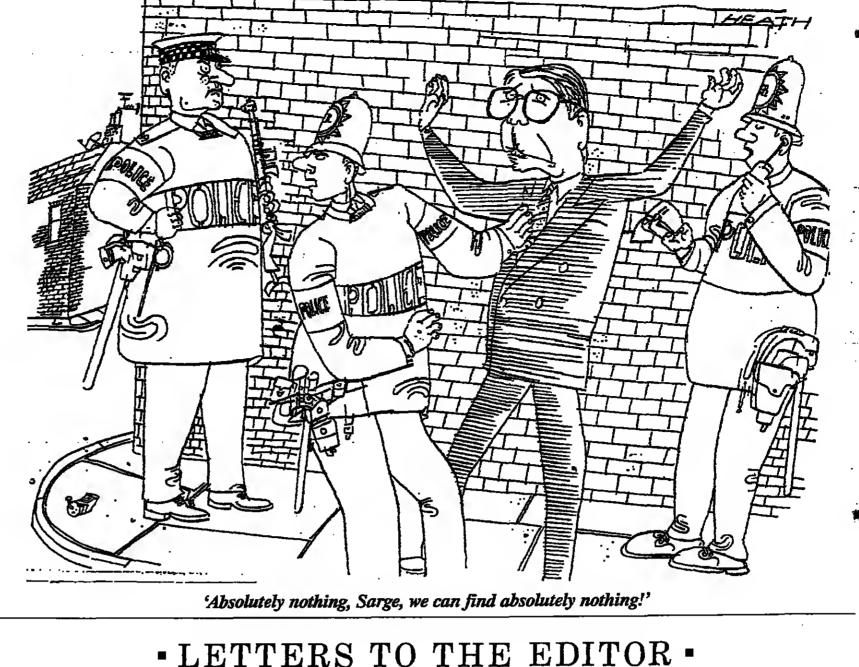
There may be a case for these new powers being rushed through at breakneck speed. The IRA is restocking and moving weapons into place to resume bombing. That seems to he the gist of the intelligence briefing. There is new danger from small, easily concealed explosive devices. It may be that existing police powers to detect them are insufficient. None of us would stand in the way of the police doing their job of making us more secure against a genuine terrorist threat

But the way Mr Howard has gone about this opens him once again to the accusation of moving too fast, without thinking openly and deeply enough about the consequences. Today he is expected to announce plans for a tougher sentencing regime that will further antagonise the judges and require a massive

prison building programme. As for stop and search, the police record for using such powers "on suspi-

cion" is mixed, to say the least. Where are the guarantees that a law intended to be used against Irish terrorists will not be amended on the streets as a catch-all permission to stop anyone. Till now police roadblocks and cordons have been set up under common law; now, it seems, there is a need to put them on a statutory foot-

ing. Why the rush?
Michael Howard's reliability as an interpreter of statute law is testified to by the number of court appearances he has recently made. Howard's proposals need to be subject to the most intense scrutiny. The House of Commons' job is to make law that sticks because it is based on popular consent, stout principle and practicability. To test proposals coming from the executive, time is needed for debate and reflection. No convincing case has been made for these extra police powers to be legislated for as quickly as they have been. For Tony Blair and Labour to join the Tories in the lobby may be an act of hipartisanship for which they will earn electoral reward. Labour wants to present itself as capable of government, understandably so. But it must remember its current job is that of Opposition. And the Opposition's job is to stimulate debate and subject legislation to the test of argument.



Ask science the wrong questions and you get no answers | Shaping a

Sir: Your editorial on science and BSE (30 March) is so loaded with misconceptions that it is hard to know where to begin. You contrast the recent achievements of the physicists with the inability of science to answer our questions about Creutzfeldt-Jakoh

"It's all very well", yon say, to explain the origins of the universe, "but if science cannot help us lo explain why and when a hamhurger is unsafe, we are bound to ask what use it is". This classic statement is followed by another: "We have not called them [the scientists] to account ... but we should". For exactly the same reasons Newton and Faraday should have been called to account. They were preoccupied with gravitation, planetary orbits, electricity and magnetism in a world beset by smallpox, plague, cholera and much more.

The refutation of your argu- make ourselves safe". ment is contained within your own article. You quote Sir Peter Medawar's dictum that "Science is the art of the soluble", ie scientific success depends on asking questions that can be answered. But it should have been obvious that this cannot happen without the techniques that make it possible. Newton and Faraday, for all their genius, could not have answered questions about infectious disease. These were not in the category of "the soluble", nor would they be for decades, until scientists could stain bacteria with the new dye-stuffs of the

through the improved optics of the high-powered microscope. If rational decisions are to be

taken, the current problem needs to be seen in perspective. We are faced with a new disease, recognised only months ago. We do not know the infective dose, or the relationship of susceptibility to age, and we are not even certain of the mode of transmission. Since the incubation period is 5-15 years, a picture of the epi-demic - and indeed whether there is one at all - will emerge only over a period of years. The technology does oot exist that would make these problems "soluble" in weeks or even months and it does not help for you to complain that "after days (!) of deliberation, the top scientific brains ... are no closer to telling us for sure what risk we might face ... and what we should do to

> JOEL MANDELSTAM University of Oxford

Sir: Your leading article of 30 March exhorts us to "adopt a more balanced, informed and realistic attitude toward the scientific world". That would be easier if the ignorance of science expressed there was less wide-

Science is a way of thinking: it tries to answer questions about how we and our surroundings tick. It does so by using evidence

organic chemist and look at them to test ideas on what the answers dents. It is not at all clear that might be (hypotheses). Where evidence does not fit, the hypothesis is modified. If gathering that evidence takes much effort and time, and is open to the charge of heing "grindingly horing" to some, then so be it.

Science does not have a set of answers waiting for every question. Moreover, there is never a sure answer, only one that is useful, so long as it works.

Science cannot tell us when a hamburger, or anything, is "safe", because oothing is safe. Life is risky. The problem lies in assessing the size of risk in any activity. With the possible (but undemonstrated) link between BSE and CJD, is the risk of lifelong driving to the supermarket to get beef greater than the risk of contracting CJD by consuming demonstrable by mathematical that beef? Or greater than the modelling, and all the rest; why risk of early death from cigarettes has science not got to work on or alcohol got at the same time? these ancient enemies and con-

Scientists are no more "sor-Emeritus Professor of cerers or "masters" than are Microhiology say, politicians. They should not be held in awe any more than others whose advice is worth heeding. But advice has to be assessed before it is accepted or not. That implies a two-way understanding between scientific adviser and advised, including an appreciation of what science is.

DAVID PEDGLEY Crowmarsh, Oxfordshire

Sir: There is a world of difference between science and the Science discussed by your correspon-

woman's life everyone wearing a white coat, working in a laboratory and pub-

lishing articles in academic jour-

nals is practising science. We

should not assume that, whatever

the quality of the work, it is a dis-

interested pursuit of truth for

employed by a tobacco company

or a statistician employed by this

government may be a Scientist.

but is he a scientist? I think not.

Sir: If the only limits to science

are those imposed by our ancient

enemies, ignorance and fear,

(Letters, 29 March) and if "emo-

tion, spirituality and all the rest" are amenable to experiments,

Sir: Science is neutral. It is the

unholy alliance of science, tech-

nology and money - egged on when it suits it by government -

that is threatening the Earth and

Until that nexus is broken and

we return to working with nature

instead of trying to dominate

her, that threat will inexorably

HUGH POPHAM

Par, Cornwall

JON GRAY

JOHN BATE

Oxford

Marksbury, Avon

truth's sake

quered them?

all life upon it.

increase.

A medical

Sir: Yvette Cooper is right ("Sex war turns into a battle of the mums". 30 March) to "urge a truce between women over home and work" and to point out that increasingly we do both things work-at-home and joh-work. some of us simultaneously, some consecutively.

What needs continuous emphasising is what a convenient. woman-shaped, working life looks like. It goes: education, full-time joh, children, part-time job, fulltime job, retirement. Part of the problem today comes from the idea that "work about the house" and "work with one's own children" isn't actually "work" and so. because it is not recorded or marketed, it doesn't get into the sta-tistics. Which is absurd and messes up all our thinking about "ecocomic activity" and "productivity", and about employment in general.

I wrote a so-called Open Forum pamphlet for the SDF about 10 years ago, called Men and Women: Equal but not Interchangeable, which the feminists in the party hated because it wasn't at the time proper to suggest the sexes might not be interchangeable. Now that it is even being suggested that men and women may be two species in a permanent symbiotic relationship, perhaps it is all right to talk about sex differences, and the "womanshaped working life" can safely be advocated? Whatever sex or species they are, men might in

fact like it too. Certainly, if we started thinking sensibly about "work", and ahandoned statisticians' Procrustean definitions, we might all be better off.

Mrs ELIZABETH YOUNG London W2

Paddy's chance of winning the election

Sir: Peter Bottomley (Letters, 29 March) asks whether the Liberal Democrats are going to win the next election. Enoch Powell once defined an amateur in politics as Someone who predicts the result of the next general election". Anyone, even the Conservatives, might win the next election. Rather than making predictions, I prefer to look at the odds. It is 140,000 times

more likely that the Liberal Democrats will win the next election than that an individual punter will win the Lottery. The public are ready to take a chance on one possibility so why not on the other. Since Bottomley has asked, "Yes Paddy, it might be you."

Eart RUSSELL House of Lords London SWI

Post letters to Letters to the Editor, and include a daytime telephone number. (Fax: 0171-293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk) Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

Abuse findings could be made public

Sir: Children in Wales and the compared with the Cleveland National Children's Bureau are and Staffordshire inquiries and deeply concerned at the decision by Clwyd county councillors to suppress publication of their independent report into child ahuse in children's homes in Clwyd (report, 27 March).

The report was commissioned with the best of intentions that the full facts should be known. However it appears that there is a conflict which could apply to any local authority, as lawyers and Clwyd's insurance company have apparently warned that to publish the report could lead to substantial claims against the authority. The Secretary of State has

powers under the Children Act to order public inquiries into child abuse scandals; the local authority is also under a duty to act on the advice of the Secretary of State. The Clwyd inquiry appears to have been relatively cheap

would certainly be a lot cheaper than individual litigation taken by all those who suffered ahuse. Surely the most efficient use of public money, notwithstanding the financial consequences for the insurers, is for the Welsh Secretary to use his powers to ensure

that the lessons learnt from the

Clwyd report are published. The alternative is for the Government to accept responsibility for all child ahuse inquiries (including Clwyd) and for ensuring that these are adequately independent, rigorous and

CATRIONA WILLIAMS Director, Children in Wales Cardiff JOHN REA PRICE Director, National Children's Bureau London EC1

Abstinence works

Sir: Ian Hargreaves t"We need to take a hard look at drugs", 28 March) referred to the goal of abstinence as "wholly unrealistic". Independent research into the treatment outcomes of Clouds House, which offers an abstinencebased treatment, show this goal to be entirely realistic. Sixty-one per cent of the I17 subjects of the study were found to be abstinent 30 months after treatment. Why then peddle such hopelessness to those for whom this goal is essential?

(Clinical Psychologist t Director, Clouds

Capitalism sucks (but only on mints)

Recently, my wife and I decided that it was time our eight-yearold son moved away from juvenile toothpaste and on to the grown-up stuff; away from things called Milk Teeth and Punch and Judy and on to real toothpastes, even if they do have even more ridiculous names. There comes a time when we all

have to put away childish things, as the Good Book says, and move into a more adult-oriented marketing scctor, where we can pay lots more money for the same sort of stuff, but stuff which has a more sophisticated image.

My son, however, showed a disinclination to make the switch. It wasn't that he didn't want to brush his teeth with grown-up stuff, it wasn't even that he didn't want to share our tubes.

"I just don't like the taste of mint." he explained. "All your toothpaste tastes of mint. I don't like the taste of mint.

"Fine," I said. "I will get a nonmint-flavoured toothpaste for you." And that is what I went out to do. l visited a very good pharmacy in the middle of Bath and asked for a nonminty toothpaste. It was then that the pharmacist and t made an interesting discovery: there are no toothpastes that do not taste minty. There is no



such thing as a non-minty toothpaste. All toothpastes taste of mint. They are not all actually labelled mint; some are labelled "original flavour" and others are called "fresh".

But mint is what they all taste of. So I ended up buying a tube of juvenile Punch and Judy strawberryflavoured toothpaste and taking that hack for my son's inspection. He quite liked the idea, so we are sticking to that flavour for the time being, but when you think that the whole idea was to get him to use grown-up toothpaste, it isn't exactly

the ideal solution. Now, before toothpaste fans write in and tell me that you don't have to have minty paste because you can get interesting Swiss products in healthfood shops, which taste of rosemary and coriander and things, I would

of rosemary and coriander and things, and they are absolutely horri-ble. No, what I want to say at this point is that I have never had my eyes opened before to the uniquity of mint in dental products. It is always mint. Even dental floss comes flavoured with mint. It doesn't come flavoured with strawberry or coffee; it only comes "plain" or flavoured with mint

The dental-hygiene industry has obviously decided that mint is the flavour for dental products and that's that. (I don't feel strong enough to raise the peculiar British habit of having mint-flavoured vinegar as an accompaniment to roast lamb - a tradition that has done far more to make us a laughing stock in Europe than BSE ever could.) If the industry has decided that mint is for teeth and gums, it has also decided that pime is the flavour for room-

freshener. I believe it is possible to make your room smell of synthetic lemon, but the most common flavour, by far, is synthetic pine. Of course, when a room has recently been sprayed with pine room-freshener, we doo't walk into it saying: "Ah, the lovely smell of fresh pinel" We go in choklike to say that I have tried these ing and saying: "Blimey, the stink interesting Swiss toothpastes tasting of room-freshener!" But we would ing and saying: "Blimey, the stink

be surprised if it wasn't a pinederived smell.

Similarly, it's lemon for washing-up liquid. And shampoo. You don't get many minty washing-up liquids. You don't get many pine-flavoured shampoos, either. All aftershaves smell more or less the same - of that basic aftershave smell.

There is much less choice today than we have ever had. Let me give you an example: when I first went to New York, as a teenager, I was bowled over by the choice of chewinggum flavours. Most American gum was made by a firm called Adams, and you could huy it in sour apple, grape, blackjack (which was licorice) and many other fruit and candy flavours. I, who had been brought up on nothing but spearmint (mint again) and juicy fruit, thought I was enter-

ing a new era. Now, 30 years later, if you want some chewing gum, you can huy mint-flavoured gum and juicy fruit, and, um, that's about it. You can buy minty toothpaste, and that's it. You can get pine room-freshener, and that's it. You can get lemon washingup liquid, and that's it.

The next time you hear someone saying that capitalism is good because it gives you choice, just remember these things.

A revolution in rail travel

Sir: Christian Wolmar is right to point out the way Eurostar services through the Channel Tunnel are revolutionising journey opportunities for rail passengers travelling further afield ("London to Bordeaux in seven hours" 27 March).

Last month, I returned from a week in Italy by catching the 9.05am train from Milan. By changing at Lausanne and again in Paris, I was at Walerloo Inlernational by 8.15pm. En route, I enjoyed a spectacular journey taking in Lake Maggiore, the Swiss Alps and Lake Geneva, not to mention two rather good train

Not so long ago, it took prac-tically all day to travel from Paris to London by rail and sea.

MICHAEL PATTERSON Central Rail Users Consultative Committee London EC2

of Merseyside

Sir: At the risk of confirming the prejudice in your leading article of I April about Merseysiders' inclination to whinge ("Voices with an accent on trust"), I feel I must moan about the Independent's blinkered view of Merseyside's telephone manner,

The region has a long and successful history of providing telephone-hased services for the likes of Littlewoods, Barclays and Royal Insurance. Most recently, QVC. Britain's first TV shopping channel, has announced a £14m investment in building a telephone "call centre" m Merseyside.

After a two-year trial, they liked what they heard so much that they are creating I,100

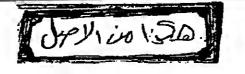
> CHRISTOPHER GIBAUO Chief Executive The Mersey Partnership

Triumphant tones | Air of desperation

Sir: Des Wilson (letter. I April) omits to mention that BAA contrives to increase the number of transfer passengers at Heathrow. Jaded passengers, having nothing else to do, "demand", it seems, yet more shops. And we are asked to accept that this is the reason for BAA's grotesque application to huild another shopping centre/airport next to Heathrow. Perhaps BAA have not realised that the tide is turning against monster shopping centres.
CHRISTOPHER HILL

The missing egg

Sir. Why is it that we eat hens' eggs, bantams' eggs, ducks' eggs, goose eggs, quails' eggs, gulls' eggs, fishes' eggs and chocolate eggs - but never lurkeys' eggs? Or do we? Have I been missing out? JUDY ALLEN London SW15



Why we must not turn our backs on Europe

Monetary convergence with other European countries is sound economics and good politics, argues Tristan Garel-Jones

There is only one thing that as a plank of policy. But, as Britain's experience post-ERM ment. In both cases, the correct policy for Britain suggests itself. knows what is going to happen. That is why Britain must hold fast to its option to opt out or in. We should be wary of any-one who advises us to decide

now, one way or the other. Yet the question will not go away. We should not underesti-mate the European drive behind monetary union. Something is bonds shows that markets going to happen. Yet the route to the euro will not be easy. No one believes a majority of EU members will be convergent by 1999. We are looking at a fudge, either on the criteria, or the deadlines, or both.

least. One of the supposed benefits of a single currency is that you import German fiscal and ponetary rigour in exchange for giving up the ability to stimulate your economy by adjusting your exchange rate. No serious country should advertise devaluation

demonstrates, it can stimulate growth within a framework of monetary and fiscal prudence.

But if a critical mass of European countries were converged beyond all argument in 1999, the British people would need to count very slowly up to 100 before saying no. A glance at long-dated British gilts and regard sterling as a weak, depreciating currency in the long term. A hard, non-inflationary euro would take its place alongside the dollar and the yen as a reserve currency. A "no" to all that would represent a refusal to sil at a world lop table predi-A fudge on the criteria would render the project unattractive for Britain - at the outset, at encouraging signal for a stand-

alone economy to send out. This is not a question we will have to face in 1997. Rather, we shall be asked to consider a minority of not-so-hard core countries moving ahead, or some ingenious device for postpone-

The convergence criteria were largely authored here and in Germany. They reflect a virtuous combination of economic targets likely to produce non-inflationary growth, so we should stick to the criteria and remain within them. Notices should be pinned up in every public place; "No Competitive Devaluation Here."

If the initial hard core were to be subjected to a generous political interpretation which allowed in countries not strictly convergent, we should remain outside EMU but stay convergent with it, and only face the question of whether to join when and if it became clear the curo is the Dmark by other means. If a postponement of EMU is proposed. we should argue that compliance with the criteria should carry more weight that meeting artificial deadlines. A convergent Britain is not only sound economics but also strengthens our hand in arguments about the desirability of EMU.

alternative is not a bed of nails. The writer is Conservative MP for

Britain, with 27 of the top 100

European companies, the wear-

ing down of European trade

barriers is a win/win situation.

We have no interest in a

botched single currency; we

would not be immune from

the chaos that would spread.

A seated position on the

fence is not the best platform

from which to lecture others.

Nor is our authority enhanced by the visceral nihilism toward

all things European by some of

the noisier elements in our soci-

ety. But the fence it has to be

until we are certain that the

As the Cabinet struggles to other means, to match a Tory frind a form of words on the referendum. Labour looks on this should not be determined to the old Europhiles nor the disensagement of the old Europhiles nor the dangers, certainly, but also has considerations, too. Most of us want the European Union to referendum. Labour looks on work. With all its faults the EU in glee. When the Government's end arrives, Europe will be at the heart of the mess. It is a force to be reckoned with. Its role in the setting up of the World Trade Organisation would be entirely appropriate under a European chairman that an issue which bas so domgives us a say in setting the inated this government's life terms of world trade. For should dominate the circum-

stances of its demise.

The temptation for Labour is to let the Tories do their worst. This means that we leave them with their visceral divisions on Europe and trail our own idea for a putative referendum but in carefully unspecific terms. We know we have to do enough to avoid the "soft on Europe" charge, especially when Europe itself has started playing the Wait-ing For Blair game with mounting enthusiasm. So the temptation is to be coyly crafty, flirting with a referendum in a way that will maximise Tory discomfort.

We need to do more than that. The worst reason to embrace a referendum is to continue normal politics by

mined by the fudge that the Cabinet finally comes up with The fact is that we need a referendum on Europe and Labour should say so now.

of what we have been saying about a people's Europe. This kind of Europe can never be constructed as an enterprise of élites. The lesson of Maastricht was that an old way of building Europe had hit the buffers. This should have prompted a period of intense debate about the future of the European project, but it did not. Until now, as the debate over enlarging the community combines with the single currency arguments to show that the old model of European developments is being replaced by a new one.

Those of us who care about the European project should be the loudest in demanding a new vision to be put to the people of Europe. That vision will be tie-

phobes. The tragedy of the European issue in Britain is that there is a majority position that finds il difficult to express itself.

Labour should pledge a referendum on a single currency as a matter of principle, says **Tony Wright**, a key adviser to Tony Blair

But it is not just a British issue now; it is a European one. One We need it above all because of the reasons why the single currency causes so much trou-ble is that it looks like a hangover from the faded Maastricht model of technocratic Europe, rather than the start of a renewal of the European project. That is why a popular vote on it matters.

For Labour, it should also matter because of what we believe about Europe and about conducting politics in a new way. The fact is the Euro-pean Union will not work if it is a union that people do not want to live in. It needs to enable us to achieve desirable things together than we could not achieve separately.

A referendum requires that people vote for or against a The writer is Labour MP for concrete proposition. The élites Cannock and Burntwood.

the prize of legitimacy as its reward. And that is what Europe badly needs, an injection of democratic legitimacy.

Labour bas staked its claim to be a new kind of party offering a new kind of politics. Old kinds of parties embrace referendums as tactical devices; new kinds of parties embrace them as instruments of democratic principle. We are already offering a referendum on the elec-toral system. We should be offering a referendum on devo-lution (and probably will have to once the going gets sticky, which is why it would be much better to promise one now). A clear referendum commitment would certainly frump the Tories. But that would be the worst reason for doing it. The best reason would be because a people's Europe demands it.

Is this the colour of the new millennium?

Joni Mitchell's best record; Derek Jarman's most baunting film; the canvases of Yves Klein, Joan Miro, René Magritte and Henri Matisse: blue is the thread that links them all. "Blue", Matisse remarked, "acts on feeling like the strong blow of a gong." Now Pepsi, in the adver-tising campaign launched yesterday, is paying £300m to make

the colour its own. It is a bold, perhaps a desperate gamble. Pepsi, after all, is not turning blue, does not have a new, blue ingredient (extract of sea water, perhaps?). In fact, it is proud to declare itself unchanged in every detail - except the colour of the can.

Is Pepsi content that it recalls 'plagues and things hurtful'?

Last week Pepsi was red, white and blue - like just about every other cola on the market - with red predominating. Today it is blue, blue and blue, with a smidgen of red and white for old time's sake. And therein, Pepsi hopes and prays, lies the magic ingredient that separates disaster from triumph.

It is an insanely extravagant nonsense, a £300m insult to the



public's intelligence. Yet something tells one that they may be on to something. If this is crassness, it is crassness on such a cosmic scale that it cannot fail to command our attention, however briefly. To understand Pepsi's strat-

egy, one must appreciate that we are on the cusp of the new millennium. We are also, according to some enthusiasts, into the Age of Aquarius, which began six weeks ago when Uranus moved into Aquarius (more serious astrologers say that's all baloney). In the marketing gobbledegook with which Pepsi explained its campaign, the organisation stated: The new



Picasso's painting of 'The Absinthe Drinker', portrait of Angel Fernandez de Soto

identity effectively leverages blue as Pepsi's signature colour and clearly communicates Pepsi's young, fun personality into the year 2000 and beyond ... the blue grid pattern gives the iden-

tity depth and dimension - projects the brand into the next millennium, leaving its competitors stuck in the 1800s and 1900s." The thing about colours is that they contain a multiplicity of colour of the sky and the deep

unrelated and even contradictory messages. The "young, fun" message of Pepsi's desideratum connects with blue's primary dictionary definition, "of the

sea", awakening thoughts of summer holidays and warm seas. It perhaps even revives memories of the "Club Pepsi Max" promotion, when Pepsi took over Ibiza's Club Med, sprinkled

it with stars and celebrities, and sent their competition winners

But "fun" is the label on only one of the boxes in which blue keeps its meanings. "... The colour of smoke," the OED goes on, "vapour, distant hills, steel, thin milk ... said of the veins as they show through the skin ... often taken as the colour of constancy and unchangingness." In

Britain, it is the colour of the Tories. But elsewhere, too, it has strong associations with conservatism, seriousness, chilly formality: the qualities that made The Big Blue such a fitting epi-thet for IBM in its glory days, before the fruiting of that tiresome little Apple.

Pepsi may be content to buy

into some of these messages: seriousness and formality, for example, may be the opposite of youth and fun, but they are not mappropriate signals for a company as aged as Pepsi to transmit. But can Pepsi be equally product linked to "the blues", to blue funk" (defined as "extreme nervousness, tremulous dread"), to the emaciated melancholy of the down-andouts that Picasso painted com-pulsively in his Blue Period, to blue as a metaphor for blindness and mortality in Derek Jarman's film Blue? Can the company sleep altogether easy knowing that Pepsi is at one with "the colour of plagues and things

The fortunes of blue have changed over the centuries, broadly following shifts in the price of the pigment. Thus, when first employed by European artists in the late 12th and early 13th centuries, it could be obtained only by grinding the semi-precious stone lapis lazuli. and was hugely expensive: the more blue in a painting, the richer and more pious the client. So blue came to be used invariably for the clothes of the Vir-

By Picasso's time, bowever,

became the uniform of the Protestant work ethic. blue had become the cheapest colour, and one explanation for For the marketing guru Wally the Blue Period was that this was Olins of Wolff Olins, the cola the colour he could best afford in those dog days. Blue was the

just as the blues became the music of the struggling black In between these two dates, however, came blue's apotheosis, when it was adopted as the defining colour of Calvinists and other Protestants in their struggle against the forces of the papacy, whose symbolic colour had always been red. Here, in

colour of the struggling painter.

Blue was the colour Picasso could best afford in those dog days

the closest prefiguring of today's cola wars: and it is appropriate that now, too, the challenger, the outsider, the pretender to the fed into such characteristic products of Protestant culture as the jeans and blue collars, which me risk rotting my teeth.

war between products that are virtually indistinguishable and have "no intrinsic merit" is inevitably a matter of awakening emotions and harnessing fantasies. "Coca-Cola with its red colour completely dominates the generic," he says, "and everyone else who competes with them ends up going for red, too like Virgin, for example. What Pepsi are trying to do is to break the generic, to make people see fizzy drinks in a completely new

way."

But identification with a colour-and specifically with the colour blue is clearly in the air. With somewhat creepy pre-science, the avant-garde fashion magazine Don't Tell It devoted its March/April issue to the theme of blue, claiming it as the pre-eminent colour of the 20th the confrontations of post- century. "Blue captures so much editor, Jiro Ejaife, enthuses, "Something triggers the sense that this is the colour of now."

Sea and sky, conservatism crown, should be the one to and the work ethic, plague and adopt the colour blue. Blue as the colour of the anti-Catholics marketeers really have tuned in to some deep message in the Zeitgeist. Though 1 strongly blue-stockings, and the blue doubt that it's enough to make

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Green consumers, the real revolutionaries

The Real World initiative can achieve its goals by harnessing spending power, says Nicholas Schoon

P ost-materialism. It's not a catchy phrase. Like all those other fashionable posts - post-modernism, post-Fordism - its unlikely to enter common parlance. But post-materialism is arguably the great sleeping giant of British politics, and yesterday Real World, Jonathon Porritt's new campaign coalition, set out to awaken it. Sadly, he may well fail to achieve his

aim to broaden the debate in the forthcoming general election beyond tax and economy, the state of the NHS and schools, on to the terrain of postmaterialism, where social justice, democratic reform, the state of the environment and the fate of the planet converge. If Real World fails, it will be because, at heart, it is a conventional political creature - a cluster of singleissue pressure groups mounting one

big joint lobbying operation.

There is another way to go: to ignore party-politics altogether and encourage people to change their consumption, their lives and the world about them by themselves. This has special relevance for Friends of the Earth (a Real World supporter) and Greenpeace (which has declined to join). These are the two best-known UK green pressure groups, which, in the absence of proportional representation and containing an sentation and a credible UK Green



NICHOLAS SCHOON

Party, have largely substituted for it. Both are 25 years old this year. Between them they have more than half a million supporters. They have won many victories, but, these days. they are treading water. Most FoE and Greenpeace supporters now realise all of us are to blame for environmental destruction, not just big business and government. FoE and especially Greenpeace are finding it harder to propel a protest into the newspapers and then on to television, forcing the politicians to address it and thereby getting name recognition and public support. Their core proposition, "You pay us, we protest", is no longer enough. They need to make more direct connections with supporters. One of the most direct links, which they have neglected is to offer them a service: to help them live less environmentally damaging lives.

Their supporters would like to move towards a more sustainable way of life. Many of them are already doing something about it, keeping compost bins, cutting down on car use (FoE is asking its supporters to forsake their cars

for two days a week). But many people would like to go further, buying more organic food (but not at high supermarket prices) or installing green technology in their homes, such as solar water heaters. These products would help them to gain independence from huge, ungreen organisations such as utilities and supermarkets; whose main imperative is to increase consumption.

But because there is no mass market, most of these green goods are only available in small quantities at high prices. Green pressure groups could, and should, help to bring producers and enlightened consumers together, to build up markets and bring down prices. Why should they not promote 'vegboxes', for example? This is the scheme in which organic farmers supply households in a district with a box full of vegetables once a week in

return for a guaranteed price.

A few of FoE's 250 local groups are involved, but less than 10,000 people are participating in Britain. Imagine what would happen if a few hundred

thousand got their food this way. Organic farming would flourish and, in a large area of once intensively farmed countryside, wildlife would get a break from pesticides and fertilisers. Urban food consumers would start to make connections with food producers with whom they have little in common at the moment. It might weaken the near-stranglehold the try and agribusiness about. supermarkets have on farmers and

There are other possibilities. By promoting furniture made from native oak, ash and other hardwoods, pressure groups could boost a timber market and belp to expand British broadleaved forests and the wildlife that inhabits them. A coalition of green organisations could join with a manufacturer to retrofit pollution-curbing catalytic converters to old cars.

This is an approach not without pit-falls. The superficiality that characterised much of the "green consumer revolution" of the late Eighties gives ample grounds for suspicion. Supermarkets and manufacturers offered a buge range of products they claimed to be environment friendly, then embarked on an extensive "delisting" of these lines in the early Nineties, when a sceptical and confused public began to lose interest.

Greenpeace and Friends of the Earth would understandably, be wor-ried about compromising their independence and authority in teaming up with manufacturers seeking profits. But if this approach worked, they would be directly promoting the greener technologies and farming methods they are forever badgering government, indus-Many of their activists and leaders

will recoil from the idea. It sounds too

commercial, too compromised, too risky. But before they reject it, they should look at the National Trust and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds - two conservation bodies with longer histories and more supporters than FoE and Greenpeace. Both the National Trust and the RSPB have been going down the road of service provision for decades. They offer their paying members free visits to their properties and reserves, where treasured buildings, landscapes or wildlife are looked after. In doing so, they give their supporters a sense of being directly involved in conservation. Both began as organisations campaigning against environmental damage; both wield considerable influence. Their model is something the younger environmental campaigners could learn from.

András Révész

tently, 50 years, András Revesz,

the self-described "last of the Mohicans" among Hun-

gary's pre-war social democrats,

was closely involved in trying

to promote the survival or re-

birth of his party on three sep-

arate occasions. He and his

associates failed each time,

through repression at the hands

of the Communist regime, dis-

unity in their own ranks or a

ily of social democrats in Bu-

dapest in 1909. His grandfather

Gyular was one of the founding

members of the Social Demo-

cratic Party of Hungary

(MSZDP) in 1890; his father,

Mihály, was editor of the par-

ty newspaper, Nepszava, for 42

years and was the MSZDP's of-ficial historian; and his hroth-

er. Ferenc, was another party

Initially, though, Révész did

not pursue a political career. A

graduate of the law faculty at

Budapest University, Revész

worked from the late 1920s to

the end of the Second World War for the social services

department of the city's mu-

nicipal council. It was the for-

mation of the post-war coalitions government - which included the MSZDP - that propelled

Révesz into senior posts within the party's Budspest organisation and in local

But Revesz's successful ca-

reer came to an abrupt end in

1948. Unlike his father and

In 1950 Révész was arrested,

Révész was born into a fam-

combination of the two.

Richard Hill

The "Condominium", the organisation agriculture man-Anglo-Egyptian government of the Sudan, is not one of the bestremembered episodes of British colonial history, but it is not too much to say that the long life and work of Richard Hill will ensure that it is never forgotten. Although the seminal part of his life was spent in the Sudan Civil Service, his scholarly interest ranged far further, from the earliest records of the tribes that first inhabited the area to the sad events of recent times. which he viewed with characteristic understanding and

Richard Leslie Hill was born at Ramsbury, Wiltshire, in Fcbruary 1901, a month too laic (to his chagrin) to call himself a Victorian. He owed this sense of history to his father, also, like all first-born Hills of Ramsbury. Richard Hill. The village shop. Hill's Stores, had been in the family for at least a century, and was kept hy his formidable grandmother Thirza. Her son had married Margaret Leslie, daughter of a notable Edinburgh Episcopalian minister. to whom his grandson bore a striking resemblance.

He went to the village school. but in 1913 the family emigrated to New Zealand, settling at Birkenhead, North Island, and he went to Auckland Grammar School. He had intended to join the army, but his failure to pass School Certificate Maths meant that both the Australian and, surprisingly, the Bolivian

armies turned him down. The firm faith that he inherited from his mother suggested an alternative vocation; he worked his passage back to England and entered St Augustine's College, Canterbury, to train as an Anglican Benedictine. St Augustine's sent him to St Edmund Hall. Oxford. where he read History, hecame Secretary of the Oxford Union and took his BLitt. His thesis was on "Toryism and the People", but, if politics beckoned. Hill realised that he had no resources: rather, as eldest son, it was his duty to earn enough to bring his family back to England. He borrowed the money to pay back St Augustine's from a Ramsbury benefactor: another Ramsbury connection found him a post in the Sudan Civil Service, in the

Government Railways. In 1927 Hill went to the Sudag, where he held various posts in the railways, serving as railway liaison officer during the war with the rank of bimbashi; he retired in 1945 and was seeanded to University College, Khartoum, as senior lecturer in history. This translation, at first sight surprising, was official acknowledgement of two decades of wide-ranging curiosity about every aspect of the land in which he lived, its history. climate and geography, social

Dave Packard invited - a bet-

ter word might he "summoned"

me to hreakfast as the con-

stituency MP representing

South Queensferry, largest of

the Hewlett-Packard manufac-

turing units in Europe, writes

Tam Dalyell [further to the

ohituary by Godfrey Hodgson,

28 March]. I found him the most

formidable, and charming, of

stayed at the Connaught Hotel. He would appear at the dining-

When he was in London, he

operators.

ufactures, ecology, communications (naturally), its public health. Characteristically, when he was appointed in 1927, his first action had been to enquire at the Bodleian Library for a hihliography of the Sudan; learning that there was none. he compiled it. A Bibliography of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan from the Earliest Times to 1937 was published in 1939,

Hill's academic career now took off. He retired from the Sudan at the statutory age in 1949, and became lecturer in Near Eastern History at Durham University, a post he held until 1966. While there he was responsible for one of the most remarkable initiatives by any British university, the creation of the Sudan Archive.

Hill realised that the sources for writing the history of the country existed, if at risk from loss or dispersal. He knew where they were, and a public appeal was launched in 1957. His skill and pertinacity in pursuing documents of all sorts from all quarters of great variety, ranging from the papers of Sir Reginald Wingate (Governor-General, 1899-1916) to the handing-over of notes of district commissioners, records of tribal customs and letters home. All was grist to the mill. and with the flour from it Hill began to make history as, literally, he haked hread - the

loaves he made were delicious. In 1951 Hill had published his Biographical Dictionary of the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan, the first expression of his belief that history can only be understood through the lives of the people - all of them - that make it. During his nine years at Durham he had the means to produce a much augmented second edition of his Dictionary, besides his much-reprinted monograph Egypi in the Sudan, 1820-1881 (first published in 1959), a hiography of Slatin Pasha and Sudan Transport (both in 1965). Three visiting professorships followed, at the University of California, Santa Barbara, Simon Fraser University. British Columbia, and Ahmadu Bello University at Kano, Nigeria, where he was also dean of the history faculty and acting dean



room door at 7am, not a minute

before and not a minute after.

Scotland" was the inevitable

opening. Packard would come

straight to the point before

raising his spoon to the por-

ridge, which he had arranged

should be put on the table just

as we entered the dining room.

Since his husiness was 1,600

well-paid johs in my con-

stituency, clear attention was

required for his every thought.

And his thoughts in the

"About ma [sic] husiness in

of Islamie Studies. In 1991 Durham University gave its "servant of the Sudan Archive" (his phrase) an honorary DLitt, the day crowned by happy competition with the Chancellor, Peier Ustinov, over the number of languages that each could

Richard Hill spent the rest of his life at Oxford, where he had met his wife Juliana, whose own scholarly work was devoted to Politian. They made a touching pair, working together in the Bodleian, she sitting heside him even after she could no longer work. A series of articles and editions of unpublished texts on the Sudan culminated in A Corps d'Elite (1995), written with Peter Hogg, the history of the regiment of Sudanese zouaves, raised by Napoleon III as a bodyguard for the Emperor Maximilian in the belief that they were immune to yellow fever, which had proved disastrous to Lesseps' first attempt on the Panama Canal. Hill followed up each traceable member of the regiment, abandoned in Mexico: some stayed on, others spread round the Caribbean, some found their

way home. In all things, Hill observed punctilio. If that makes him sound pompous, he was not: who else could footnote the Azende tribe, "The Northern Sudanese were confident that the Azende were cannihals and called them by the suggestively onomatopoeic name Niam-Niam"? But his tall, spare figure, latterly bald, his neat moustache, gave him an aura of precision, conspicuous also in his fine italic hand. To all, he observed unfailing courtesy. It flowed from him naturally, like the perfect charity to which it was the natural expression. In his own field omniscient, he gave knowledge freely; what he did not know he sought humbly, for humility was as natural to him as charity.

One of the writers in Modemization in the Sudan, a volume of essays dedicated to Hill in 1985, recalled meeting the king of Tombol, who produced the typescript translation (a characteristic gift) made for him by Hill of the accounts of earlier European travellers, adding, "Do you know Richard Hill? He could tell you many things about the olden days here." Such exchanges must have taken place many times over the last 70 years. "Men's work cannot he separated from their lives" was his own summation: his life was long; his work will last even longer.

Nicolas Barker

David Packard

Richard Leslie Hill, colonial civil servant and historian: born Ramsbury, Wilishire 18 February 1901; married 1937 Juliana Cotton (died 1988; four daughters); died Oxford 21 March 1996.

1960s, commonplace enough

now, were pioneering at the time. On 14 May 1965, at the

turning of the first sod of the

Queensferry plant, Packard's partner and lifelong close friend (famous partners do not always

remain close personal friends).

the altogether gentler, more re-

flective scientist Bill Hewlett,

told me that one of the chief

reasons they had come to the

hanks of the Forth was the

fame of Edinhurgh University in embryo computer-related

Harrhy as Truffaldino in Prokofiev's Love for Three Oranges

Paul Harrhy

Carmen with Scottish Opera,

His later roles for Scottish

Opera included a sensitive study

of the Novice in Billy Budd; a

good-tempered Pedrillo in The

Seraglio and a grumpy Mime in

Das Rheingold, a foretaste of his

double role in the Cohto's

In 1987 Paul Harrhy took a

plunge into Romanticism with

the role of Raimond in Chelsea

Opera Group's rousing concert performance of Tchaikovsky's

The Maid of Orleans. He also

performance at the Palace

Theatre in aid of London

Lighthouse, and Pylades in

Iphigenias, Opera Factory's

compressed version of Gluck's

He first appeared with Eng-

lish National Opera in 1987 as

the High Priest of Amon in

Philip Glass's Akhnaten, fol-

lowed in 1988 by Valzacchi in

other ultra-sensitive young man.

However, his most successful

role that year was Truffaldino

the inventor and for many years

technical assessor-in-chief, left

it to Packard, the marketeer and

manager, to choose people -

and as a people-chooser Packard had an instinct for

talent that was uncannily un-

erring. In 30 years representing

South Queensferry, where the

Hewlett-Packard factory over-

looks the Forth Bridge, I have

never heard a single complaint

against the management, an

Of small talk Packard had lit-

astonishing record.

two Iphigenie operas.

Ringlet in 1990.

In a career as a lyric tenor that lasted only a little over 10 years. Paul Harrhy always marked his performances with the individual stamp of his own

personality. A very good actor, he also disclosed the essential qualities of the characters he sang. Excelling in 20th-century and contemporary music, he created several roles in new operas at the Almeida Festival. The light incisiveness of his voice, and superb diction, both in English and Italian, made him a fine exponent of 17th- and 18thcentury music. The Romantic style of the 19th century was mostly outside his range, although he was a good Mime and an excellent Loge in the City of Birmingham Touring Opera's Ring Saga, or Ringlet as the com-

pressed cycle was nicknamed. Trained in London at the Guildhall School of Music and Drama, Harrhy sang the title-role of Cavalli's L'Egisto, going mad most convincingly, as well as Fenton in Nicolai's The Merry Wives of Windsor, while still a student there. The following year he made the first of several visits 10 Batignano for Musica nel Chiostro, appearing in Rinaldo da Capua's intermezzo La offered him splendid opportu-Zingara as the Gypsy's hrother and a dancing hear.

sciences. "The nearest thing in

Packard saw that his man-

agers got the best out of acad-

emics. The company pioneered the industrial-academic rels-

tionship, picking or exploiting

the brains of European univer-

sities. They were also pioneers

among American high-tech in-dustries this side of the Atlantic

in their determination to de-

velop indigenous talent capable

of taking over the most impor-

tant managerial posts. Hewlett,

Europe to Stanford."

scended the primrose path in a most stylish manner. That year he sang one of the Shepherds in Monteverdi's Orfeo at a

sang Sam Kaplan, another sen-sitive young man, in Kurt Weill's Street Scene at a charity Der Rosenkavalier, a role which falding, a character who nity for comedy, and Janek in The Makropoulos Case, yet an-

Paul Harrhy, opera singer: born 6 September 1957; died 8 March

I ventured to ask, "Dave, what's

The little local difficulty

turned out to be Watergate

and my host was the President

of Creep, the Council for the

Re-election of the President in

replied.

anger, which he first sang for

brother, he opposed the merger between the MSZDP and the burgh Festival and in Tel Aviv. Communist Party, a move that He took part in three prewas eventually forced through under pressure from the dommant Communists who then went on to establish a oneparty Stalinist state. A roonth before the merger in March 1948, Révész-like other prominent centrists and right-wing figures - was expelled from the MSZDP. Within weeks he lost his job at the city council and for the next two years could only earn a precarious living hy growing mushrooms. along with many other Social community performance.

Democrats, including his father. After being convicted on a variety of trumped-up charges, he spent five years in prison. During the 1956 uprising, he became one of the chief organisers of the hriefly reconstituted MSZDP as deputy to the Secretary-General, the legendary Anna Tethly, who had just been released from prison. The two of them visited Vienna in early November, when the MSZDP was one of the coalition partners in the revolutionary government. On their return to Hungary, Soviet Elizabeth Forbes

Our liturgy unleashes the eternal

border.

My Methodist forchears, perhaps not sur-prisingly, had a developed distaste for liturgy. "Just play-acting" was how the most formidable of the aunts described the activities she had once observed on a visit to the Community of the Resurrection at Mirfield, over the hill from her red-brick

Though they probably did not know as much, the aunts were continuing a proud tradition of Puritan disdain both of liturgy and of the theatre. Derived in a rather implistic way from the teaching of Plato that imitation is deception, their attitude had a praiseworthy directness. Apart from what they saw as downright unmanliness and ostentation ("dressingup" would probably have been the preferred term), there was also thought to he an element of chicanery. The "dressing-up" led, as they supposed, to simple misrepresentation. It was only a piece of hread and a cup of wine, when all was

I have wondered, as Easter upon Easter has punctuated my life with an ever deeper appreciation of the Church's lilurgy, what I would say now to the Methodist aunts if I were asked to explain what it is all about. How to explain the washing of feet and the watching in the garden, the creening to the Cross and the singing to the candle in the dark? It is all so alien to the hrass-tacks and boiled-hrisket world which they knew as reality.

In the first place liturgy is not "playacting". It is not a recollection or imitation of an event so long past that it needs colour and artifice to hring it alive - a "pageant" or "mystery play" which depends for its effectiveness on the skill of tators. Liturgy, like life, is both something own. I do not recall him; he recalls me to the performers. It is at one and the same you do and something which happens to myself.

JAN 100 150

Arguments OF Easter

The Rev Geoffrey Kirk, of St Stephen's, Lewisham, one of the leaders of the opposition to women priests in the Church of England, today discusses the uses of drama in worship.

time something more basic and more complex. The church's liturgy - and the liturgies of the three holy days of Easter, which are paradigmatic - is best understood as an unfolding or uncoiling of imagery. It is not the portrayal of a past event but the unleashing of a potent and present reality. It is undertaken hy way of story, because all human perception is related in narrative, but it goes beyond the story told. It is not one story, but all stories.

That is why the liturgy of Holy Saturday begins in the primeval dark, the chaos before creation, with the first lightfall: and then unfolds the history of salvation from garden to garden, from Eden to Gethsemane. Its images of fire and water owe nothing to artifice. They are what they are - and yet more than they seem.

In the second place liturgy is action, not spectacle. The aunts in their pitch pine chapel were exposed to worship at its most supine. They observed and received what the man in the pulpit said and did. But to the rites of the church there are no specyou; not planned with artifice but fraught with the unexpected. Like life it is repe-

titious and like life it never happens a second time. In the third place, liturgy is not a commemoration - it is not a memorial service to some long-dead loved one whose conjured presence can somehow ease the pain of parting. It does not exist to swallow up time, but to unleash the eternal. The aunts are right. Every memorial service is to some extent a lie and a deception. We speak well of the dead because we rightly fear to judge and be judged. But in the Church's liturgy we stand before the

eternal judge, whose every word is truth. Two hymns point up the contrast. "The Old Rugged Cross" is cliché run riot, a triumph of sentiment over sense in which literal meaning is hard to find.

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross the emblem of suffring and shame and I loved that old cross where the dearest and the best for a world of lost sinners was slain. So I'll cherish the old rugged cross Till my trophics at last I lay down:
I will cling to the old rugged cross
and exchange it some day for a crown.

Paul Gherhardt's Passion Chorale, by contrast, is about a present reality.

My days are few. O fail not, with thine immortal power, to hold me that I quail not in death's most fearful hour.

As I go this Easter to the altar, prepared by abstinence, informed by study, fortified by prayer. I will go, as every priest does, as an icon of the crucified and risen sayiour. But I will play there no part but my

the smuggler El Remendado in

In 1986 he toured with Opera 80 as Tom Rakewell in The Rake's Progress; though his rake role that year was Thuffaldino sadly lacked moral fibre, he de-in Prokofiev's Love for Three Or-

Opera North, and later re-peated for ENO, at the Edin-Promenade Concert and also

micres at the Almeida Theatre, as Stump in Jo Casken's Golem in 1989; as Henri d'Esperaudieu in Gerald Barry's The Intelligence Park in 1990; and as the Regulator in Jonathan Dove's Siren Song in 1994. Returning to Batignano, he sang the titlerole (a hen-pecked husband) in Provenzale's Lo schiave di sua moglie in 1989, and Calendrino in Mozart's fragment L'oca del Cairo, completed by Stephen Oliver, in 1991. That year he sang Tamino in Ladders and Snakes, Opera North's version of The Magic Flute for

After appearing as Pong in the Royal Opera's production of Turandot at Wembley arena in 1992, he sang the Lover in a concert performance in St Giles, Cripplegate, of Sibelius's one-act opera The Maiden in the Tower, and sang Nencio in Haydn's L'infedelta delusa at Garsington Festival. Nencio was another of Paul Harrhy's best roles, on a par with Trufpurely comic on the surface. revealed more serious depths.

Révész was allowed to go home, but his political hopes were dashed when the MSZDP and other non-Communist parties were once again banned, Révesz escaped punishment tle. In July 1972, after the toast because the new Communist and honey and about to leave, leadership under János Kádár was at the time trying to entice all this about some hurglary in former Social Democrats to downtown Washington which is collaborate in consolidating the creating such a fuss?" "Tam, I didn't think you concerned

But Révész had no intendon yourself with trivialities!" he of supporting the authorities; instead he became an internal exile who stayed away from politics. For the next 30 years he worked as a legal adviser and, after his retirement, as a consultant to a textile plant in

Budapest. Throughout this

period he was kept under In the course of a political ca-reer that spanned, intermitsurveillance by the secret police. Révesz's third attempt at rescuing the MSZDP began in the late 1980s when the Communist regime was on the brink of collapse. As Hungary became the testing ground for the transition from one-party rule to democracy, Révész relaunched the MSZDP in November 1988. By then nearly 80, he was appointed the party's chairman. He became the star attraction at a gathering of the Socialist International in early 1989 when he was the only party leader from a Communist-ruled conntry to attend - his other East Enropean colleagues were still leading parties in exile in the West.

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Woolwichief mal

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There were high hopes that, under the new conditions of. freedom, the Social Democrats would return to their successes of the immediate post-war years when they had been Hungary's second or third most popular party. It was not to be. This time Hungary's Communists were leading the way in Eastern Europe by reforming themselves as a Western-style social democratic party. In the process they managed to steaf the MSZDP's clothes. Besides. the MSZDP descended into factionalism; the party was badly divided between the older generation and young supporters, between those who had cooperated with the Communists and those who had not



Révesz was eased out of the post of MSZDP Chairman within months, although he was later reinstated for a while as honorary president. Then the MSZDP suffered the indignity of failing to get into parliament in the multi-party elections during the spring of 1990 hecause it could not get above the 4 per cent threshold of votes. In the years that followed Revesz tried to keep the torch of social democracy hurning, hut his inspiration proved insufficient to halt the factional fighting within the MSZDP and its splinter groups. In the meantime, the ex-Communists returned to powtroops already deployed in putting down the uprising platform in 1994.

András Révész v er on a largely social democratic

András Révész was known as the grand old man of Hungarian social democracy. An urhane, witty man with no strong political amhitions, he never had any doubts about his political allegiance. As his wife, Katalin, once put it. "We are social democrats and, if things go well, we will die as social democrats. Révesz did.

András Révész, politician: born Budapest, Hungary 3 November 1909; MSZDP leader on Budapest City Council 1945-47; Deputy Secretary-General, MSZDP October-November 1956; Chairman, MSZDP 1988-89; married (one son, one daughter); died Budapest 29 March

European Engineers

The following engineers have been awarded the qualification European Engineer by the European Federation of National Engineering Associations (FEANI):

M. Alderman; R. Alkhaddar; O.C. Allen; H.R.N. Archibald: D. Asbach-Cullen; C. H.R.N. Archibald: D. Ashach-Cuitere, C. Ash: A. Ashmore; M. Asim; B. Budmust, T. Bagnalli, L. Balfour, R. Bannou, J. Basharad; N. Relson; K.K. Bhanji, M. Bishaya, R.J. Bower, A.J. Brand, G. Bernani, G. Bruchang, A.D. Brown; T. Brown; E. Browne; D. N. Bryce; P. Bukhadi, M. Bulpett, R. Bulland; D. Buther, B.M. Carner, M. Carter, K. Carver, M. Cassey, N. Cavan, S.T.Y. Chan, L.Y.L. Chong, Pf. Clark, J.P. Chen, D. Collins; A. Conway, P. Owding; A. Cru, G. Crosby, R.P. Cullarn; S. Dow; M. Oldon; M. Donovan, N. Doran; G. Doweling; C. Drummond; P. Doden; M. Oldon; C. Drummond; P. Doden; M.

S Daw; M. Otzon; M. Donovan; N. Doron; G. Dowdlan; C. Drummend; P. Dudman, D.A.B. Edmondstor; H. Eppel; M. Evan; R. Ews; M. Eyre, M. Fox W. Garden; C.A. Gat: M.J.E. Gibbs: G. Goodenough; A. Gray, R.J.S. Greenhalgh; D.J. Greenwood; L.A. Hall; G. Harding, F.G. Hardy, O. Hart; J. Hay; S. Hayes; K.K.S. Hoy, P. Hoge; R. Hnimes; M. Hursoni, M. Huckson; C. Hughes; O. Hughes; M. Hunter; M. Lves; J. John; J. Johnson; G. Jonner, C.E. Jonner, R.E. Jones; S. Jones; E. Jorgenson; A. Karpathakis; J. Kerslake; R.M. Kitson; S.G. Kolecha; E. Lai; L. Luke; P.K. Lau; G.O. Lee; T. Lunkers, R. Lockett

E. Jorgetscher, A. Karpathakis, J. Rerslaber, R.M. Kitson; S.G. Kotecha; E. Lal; L. Lake, P.K. Lau, G.O. Lee: T. Linkens, R. Lockett, K. Luckhurst, K.J. Marnon; J. McCormick; S. McKerma; D.M. McLoughlin; J. Mcaden; H.D. Mcteaffer, R. Moorfield, R. Piker, A. Palejwala; J.B. Pannell; A. Parker, K.W. Parkirson, O.R. Pavne; David Phillips, Douglas Phillips, G.N. Pike, P. Pontkelli; R. Porazneki; W. Price: J. D. Proudt M.A. Pye, R. Povazneki; W. Price: J. D. Proudt M.A. Pye, R. Pywelt, J. Rabon; M. Rawings, R. Rayner, J. W. Robetts; T. G. Rowe; P. Ryder, C. W. Sandon; C. Sannders, J. Schoter, S. Shrediff; B. Shorkrizadelt; R.A. Shule; E. Sampson; R.M. Simpson, P.J. Skrider; O. Smalley, A. Smith; C. Smalt, David Smith; David Smith; David Smith; Stephen Smith; L. Sumervei; L. Symelt; L. Stacey; O. Storer, J. Salton; S. Taylor, F. Teather, M. Thompson; I. Tinsne; O. Tonke, R. Townsend; O. Tocker, G. Weissen; S.J. Webster, B. Wernham, T.P. Westley, O. Whessiey, G.J. White; M. Whitehouse; T. William; K. Wojiten, J. Zam.

For Gozetta RIPTHS MARRIACES & DEATHS, please telephone 0171-293 2011 or fax to 0171-293 2010. Charges

Birthdays

Mr Alec Baldwin, actor, 38: Professor Janet Bately, Professor of English, King's College London, 64; Mr Timothy Bateson, actor, 70: Mr Tony Benn MP, 71; Sir Jeffery Bowman, former chairman, Price Waterhouse Europe, 61; Mr Marlon Brando, aclot. 72; Canon Anthony Caesar, an Extra Chaplain to the Queen, 72; Miss Doris Day, actress and singer, 72: Mr Dennis Fart, former Director. Courtauld Institute Galleries, 67: Mr William Gaunt, actor, 59; The Duke of Grafton, conservationist, 77; Herr Helmut Kohl, German chancellor, 66; Mr Jonathan Lynn, director, actor and author, 53; Mr Eddie Murphy, actor, 35; Sir Martin Nourse, a Lord Justice of Appeal, 64; Sir John Smith, founder of the Landmark Trust, 73; Miss Jan Sterling, actress, 73; Lt-Cdr Sir Godfrey Style, governor, Oveen Elizabeth's Foun-dation, 8t; Mr Francis Tate, former chairman, Tate and Lyle, 83; Mr Richard Thompson, guitarist and songwriter, 47; Sir Malcolm Thornton MP, 57; Professor Kathleen Tillotson, author and Emeritus Professor of English, London University, 90; Mr John Virgo, snooker player, 50; Professor Sir Michael Woodruff, surgeon, 85.

Anniversaries Births: Philip III, King of France, t245; Henry IV, King of England, 1367; The Rev George Herbert, poet, 1593; John Abernethy, surgeon, 1764; Washington Irving, essayist and historian, 1783; Edward Everen Hale, writer, 1822; James Barry Munnik Hertzog, statesman, 1866; Joseph Aloysius (Allan) Dwan, film director, 1885; Dooley (Arthur) Wil-son, singer, 1894; Mario Castelnuovo-Tedesco, composer, 1895; Henry Robinson Luce, publisher and founder, Time and Fortune magazines, 1898; Hugh Burden, actor,

1913. Deaths: Pope Honorius IV, 1287; Bartolomé Esteban Murillo, painter, 1682; Metchior D'Hondecoeter, painter, 1695; Sir John Friend and Sir William Parkyns, executed for allempting to assassioate King William III 1696; Jean Adam, poet, 1765; Erik Johan Stagnelius, poet and writer, 1823; Bishop Reginald Heber, hymn-writer, 1826; John Wilson ("Christopher North"), author and philosopher, 1854; Sir James Clark Ross, explorer, 1862; Franz Berwald, composer, 1868; Jean-Baptiste Madou, painter and lithographer, 1877; Jesse Woodson James, outlaw, shot in the back 1882; Johannes Brahms, pianist and composer, 1897; Richard D'Oyly Carte, operatic im-presario, 1901; Jean de Reszke t/an Mieczyciawi, singer, 1925; Madame Albani (Marie-Louise Lejeunesse), singer, 1930; Bruno Richard Haupt-mann, executed by electrocution for the murder of the Lindbergh baby 1936; Conrad Veidt, actor, 1943; Kurt Julian Weill, composer, 1950; Ferde Grofé (Ferdinand Rudolf von Grafe), composer, 1972; Ray (Stanley Raymond) Noble, bandleader and composer, 1978; Henry Graham Greene, novelist, 1991. On this day: the Peace of Catean-Cambresis, ending Hapsburg-Valois wars, was signed, 1559; the first Pony Express began at St Joseph, Missouri across the United States, to Sacramento, California, 1860; Mrs Emily Pankhurst was sentenced in three years' penal servicude for inciting others to place explosives at the house of David Lloyd George, 1913; Haile Selassic (Ras Tafari) was proclaimed Emperor of Ethiopia, 1930; the German Afrika Korps captured Benghazi in Libya, 1941; the Arab nations con-cluded an armistice with Israel, 1949;

in Korea, a Japanese Boeing 727 was hijacked by nine Japanese and flown

to Pyongyang, 1970; after two false

starts, the Grand National was de-

clared void, 1993. Today is the Feast Day of Saints Agape, Chionia, and Irene, St Burgundofara or Fare, SI Nicetas, St Pancras of Thormina, St Richard of Chichester and St Sixtus

Lectures

Britain", 1.15pm.

National Gallery: Lorne Campbell and Jill Dunkerton, "Curators and Conservators (i): the rediscovered Gossaert", tom. Thite Gallery: Dan Graham in conversation with Liam Gillick, 6.30pm.
British Museum: Simon James, Rome's Influence on Modern

Church appointments

The Rev Derek Richard Watson Rector of St Luke and Christ Church Chelsea, diocese of London, to be Dean of Salisbury Cathedral. The Rev David Garnett, Team Rector, Ellesmere Port, diocese of Chester, to be Archdescon of Chesterfield, diocese of Derby. The Rev David Ratcliff, Chaplain of Christ the King, Frankfurt-am-Main, Germany, to be also Archdeacon of Scandinavia and Germany (Europe). The Ven Douglas Bartles-Smith, Archdeacon of Southwark, Canon Ian Knox, Director of Ecumenica Affairs in the diocese of Wakefield and Canon Marion Mingins, Direc-

Edmundsbury and toswich, to be Chaplains to the Oucen. The Rev Peter Taylor, Rector, Rayleigh and Rural Dean of Rochford, to be Archdeacon of Harlow, diocese Chelmsford.

tor of Ordinands in the diocese of S

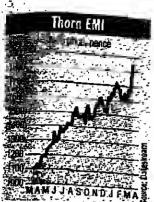
ROYAL ENGAGEMENTS Prince and Princess Michael of East oper ity Terminal, Prot of Feliastows.

Changing of the Guard CHAING HIG OF LIFE CHARLE THE CHARLES THE HOUsehold Cavalry Mounted Regimes mounts the Queen's Life Guard at Horse Guard. 11.am. 1st Buttaffon Welch Guards mounts th Queen's Guard. at Backinghum Paleot. 11.30an bund provided by the Inith Guards.

and pitch-pine chapel in Roberttown.

said and donc.

Bid talk sends Thorn EMI shares soaring



MATHEW HORSMAN Media Editor

Shares in Thorn EMI soared EMI, was imminent, Dealers ulation last night. said interest in the stock was

conglomerate, and Sony, the Japanese electronics and enter-

list of potential buyers. The shares, which have nearly doubled in a year, closed last night proval received from most tax yesterday on talk that a bid for the company's musical at £18.43p, up a spectacular 140p on the day. Thorn-EMI the company's music subsidiary. had no comment on the spec-

Analysts said the price rise was frenzied, as a range of blue-chip linked to Thorn EM1's plans to names, mostly American were demerge its highly profitable tipped to be preparing an offer.
Time Warner, the US media

music division this summer, in a
bid to enhance shareholder value. Hoare Govett, the investment bank, estimates the break tainment company, topped the up value to be £19.50 a share.

jurisdictions. The demerger is expected to cost about £75m in administration and fees.

"It makes sense for a hidder to wait until the company has done all the hard, complicated work, and then step in with a bid," one analyst said yesterday.

The Thorn division, which operates rental shops worldwide, is worth an estimated £2bn. according to analysts' estimates. EMI, one of world's leading music publishing and recording companies, is particularly strong in Europe. It owns the Virgin Music Group, which publishes the Rolling Stones, Smashing Pumpkins and Simple Minds. Worth about £6bn, it could fetch far more from a buyer eager to

EMI has always had a few problems in the US," one analyst said. "A logical huyer would be one of the existing US music companies, which could imtoo." Among the candidates are MCA, the film and music conglomerate controlled by Seagram, the Canadian distilling and media company, and Sony. which owns Columbia Pictures

and a lucrative music business. expand in the European market. But other analysts said Disney, the US entertainment giant, was a more llikely bidder, as it does not yet have a significant presence in the music business. As a major film producer, Disgenerated by its soundtracks. Another possibility is Rupert

Murdoch's News Corporation, one of last remaining global media empires that does not con-

trol a major recording label.
Sir Colin Southgate, Thorn
EMTs chairman, bas said in the
past that any bidder would have to offer a "maxi price" to derail the demerger plans. He bas dismissed speculation in the past, and has been the key architect

prove margins at EMI in the US new could be expected to bene-and get the European market fit from the additional sales it as the logical way forward for

the group. Under the demerger, Sir Colin would be chairman of both groups, while James Fifield, president of EMI, would continue in that role.

Senior executives, including Mr Fifield and Sir Colin, stand to make millions out of share options. At last night's price, Sir Colin's potential gain is just under fóm.

Comment, page 21

Woolwich chief makes abrupt exit

Woolwich, the UK's third largest building society, was last night facing an unprecendented crisis as its chief chief executive Peter Rohinson resigned unexpectedly, less than three months after taking office.

The society, which recently anounced plans to seek a stockmarket listing worth up to £3hn. refused to comment on the reasons for of Mr Robinson's

Sir Brian Jenkins, chairman of the Woolwich, said: "Neither Mr Robinson not the society belive it to be appropriate to comment further at this stage. The normal business of the society is entirely unaffected. Its assets



Robinson: Departure after only three months in office

and funds remain unimpaired." Mr Robinson's place will be taken once more by Donald Kirkham, who retired as group chief executive in January.

Sir Brian added that Mr Kirkham had the full confidence of the society's board unthat its flotation plans would continue.

Mr Robinson's departure, afier 32 years at the Wootwich. would be a severe setback for the society's plan to de-mutualise next year. He took over in Janonly a week before the society efit from generous shareannounced its proposals.

It is helieved that the meeting yesterday followed a emer- corporations.

99 1

gency meeting of Woolwich directors over the weekend. Yesterday's all-day board meeting followed mounting speculation

Some reports suggested yes-terday that Mr Robinson, aged 54, has found it hard to develop a proper working relationship with Sir Brian jenkins, former Lord mayor of London and City accountant, who became chairman last year after retiring from accountancy firm Coopers and Lybrand.

Mr Robinson is widely viewed as the architect of Woolwich's decision to seek a listing on the Stock Exchange. The decision to float follows that of Halifax Building Society, which merged with Leeds Permanent last year.

It also came in the wake of a separate decision by Cheltenham & Gloucester, another top-10 building society to agree takeover terms by Lloyds Bank. Alliance & Leicester, the nearest rival in terms of size followed suit within days of the Woolwich announcement. Last month, the Woolwich reported profits of £333m in 1995, up 10 per cent on the year before.

If the flotation goes ahead, more than 3.5 million members of Woolwich Building Society. to share in a shares windfall worth up to £800 each.

Both the society's 600,000 borrowers and its 3 millionplus share account holders will each be handed shares worth up to £1,000 in return for backing the flotation, due in August

But Mr Robinson made headlines when he dubbed as "carpethaggers" about 30,000 new til a new chief executive could be found. He also confirmed counts shortly before the announcement was made. He added that they would not share

in the sbares free-for-all Woolwich's 17 directors, including Mr Robinson and Sir Brian Jenkins, who received a total £1.4m in payments uary, replacing Mr Kirkham during 1994, are likely to benoption packages, similar to those awarded to newly listed



Building for the future: Neville Simms, chief executive of Tarmac, surveying a Wimpey construction site at Gracechurch Street in the City of London, taken over as part of the two companies' recent asset swap. Accouncing a slump in profits from £107.2m to £20.3m, after heavy exceptional write-offs. Tarmac promised the City sizeable cost cuts from

the deal which saw it pull out of housebuilding to focus on heavy building materials and construction services. Tarmac's shares rose 8.5p to 119p as investors focused on the expected benefits of the integration. Investment column, page 20

Ofwat warns of future | Continental telecoms South West clampdown

MARY FAGAN Industrial Correspondent

Ofwat, the water industry watchdog, warned of a clambdown on South West Water's future prices because of "shortcomings" in the compa-

ny's performance. The regulator also said that North West Water "has some way to go to rank amongst the best performers in the industry" and that a report on Yorkshire Water's handling of the drought, would be issued within weeks.

Investigations by the regulator were started last year fol-lowing concerns that the three firms are falling behind the

rest of the industry in meeting certain standards.

lan Byatt, director general of Ofwat, said yesterday that South West's delay in improving sewage treatment "will be taken into account in setting price limits at the next periodic review". The statement adds to the uncertainty surrounding South West, which in the throes of management changes and

faces potential takeover bids. Mr Byatt also warned that while North West Water "will not require any corrective action". the company must demonstrate further improvements before the periodic price review in

Mr Byatt said: "Price limits were set in 1989 and 1994 with the expectation that companies would complete certain programmes to achieve higher quality standards and improvements in their level of service. I made it clear my intention to scrutinise company performance carefully and take action where

I am not satisfied." He said that his investigation into Yorkshire, which has been criticised over its handling of the drought, has yet to be completed. He said decisions on York-shire would "be based on the assessment of fact" and not on the internal enquiry which the company has undertaken.

News, the news provider for

ITV, as well as a stake in

GMTV, the morning commer-

'don't want Mercury'

France Telecom said yesterday (the joint venture) do not have that neither it nor Deutsche any interest in buying MerTelekom would want to buy Mercury Communications in the event of a merger between BT's main rival, would be in-BT and Mercury's parent, Cable & Wireless, writes Mary

The flat rejection of any interest in the UK firm followed rumours that Deutsche Telekom, with which the French group bas strong links, was BT's preferred buyer for

The German company has alsaying: "France Telecom.

The divestment of Mercury,

evitable if the £35bn merger with C&W is to proceed. The companies admitted last week that their advisers were in talks but have since refused to

Shares in BT fell by 7p to 375.5p yesterday while C&W closed down by 9p at 529p.

NatWest Markets said the disposal of Mercury and C&W's ready dismissed rumours as mobile operation could raise pure speculation", but its part-around £2.5bn; and that a ner went further yesterday by merged BT and C&W could generate £4hn pre-tax-profits in Deutsche Telekom and Atlas the year to March 1998.

group, earlier this year, bave to be sold for competition reasons.

drink company, is among the

Granada also plans to begin

detailed negotiations on the

sale of at least £1.5bn worth of

hotef assets, including the Meri-

dien chain, and will soon post

sales memoranda to about eight

"pre-qualifying" bidders.

likely bidders.

Whitbread, the food and

SFA to face MPs' quiz over Barings

NIC CICUTTI

The Securities and Futures Authority, the City regulator headed by Richard Farrant, is to be summoned to appear within weeks before a committee of MPs to explain its decision to discipline a former Barings executive described as a whistleblower".

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The SFA will be questioned by the Treasury and Civil Service Select Committee over its move to discipline Ian Hopkins, former head of group treasury and risk

Other former executives who may be called before the committee include Andrew Tuckey, deputy chairman at the bank, and Peter Norris, former bead of securities.

Mr Hopkins is thought to have approached the committee after a move by the SFA to ban him from working within the industry for up to three years and make him pay costs thought to be of £10,000 for his role in the the bank's collapse.

However, he is understood to see himself as a whistleblower, who drew the activities of Nick Leeson, the Singapore trader who cause Barings collapse, to the bank's attention several months earlier. Nine former Barings executives are said to be facing dis-

One MP, who would not be named, said: "The SFA has a lot to answer for. I bope we will be calling on them to appear before the Committee and tell us why they have taken this prejudiced stand against a hrave whistleblower like Hopkins."

A deadline for them to accept the SFA's action passed on Friday. Two executives, including Mr Hopkins and Ron Baker, former head of derivatives trading, are believed to be opposed to the decisions taken against them. Mr Baker's penalty is believed to be similar to Mr Hopkins'.

Barings was brought down in February last year by losses of some £860 million run up by Leeson in the high-risk derivatives market in Singapore. He is now serving a six and a half year sentence in the state's Changi Prison after admitting two

counts of cheating.

Barings was rescued by Dutch banking group ING. In April last year, 20 key Barings staff based in Singapore, Tokyo and London left the company.

Although Mr Hopkins and Mr

Baker were both criticised by the Board of Banking Supervision in-quiry into the bank's collapse, they were not held to be responsible for what happened by a separate inquiry ordered by the Singapore Ministry of Finance in October 1995.

The Singapore report said: "In our view the collapse might have been avoided if Mr Hopkins' concerns had been taken seriously and acted upon promptly.

Granada subsidiary launch aimed at ITV consolidation



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MATHEW HORSMAN

Granada, the media and leisure giant, yesterday announced the launch of Granada Media Group, a new subsidiary 10 hold the company's extensive media assets.

The revamped operating structure is aimed at consolidating Granada's ITV licences, its pay-TV investments and its 11 per cent stake in BSkvB.

As revealed in the Independent last week, Duncan Lewis, formerly the chief executive of Mercury, the telecoms compeutor to BT, will be GMG's new chief executive. He will

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11594.99 10073.39 3.30†

2525.42 2253.88 1.96†

source: FT Information

5683.60

oversee the expansion of Granada's media interests on the Continent, in Asia and the US.

Charles Allen, Granada's chief executive, said the announcement did not mark a first step in splitting the company's operations in two. He added that he would continue to spend about 40 per cent of his time overseeing the TV business, despite his involvement in the time-consuming integration of Porte, the hotels and restaurants group, which Granda bought carlier this year following a bitter two-month battle.

Steven Morrison, managing director of Granada's ITV li-

cence bolder, London Weekend Television, is to be chief operating officer of the new media division.

Mr Lewis's experience managing in a regulated environment - telecoms - was considered a particular asset, Mr Allen said. The former Mercury chief was also tapped for his knowledge of advanced telecommunications markets, which are rapidly converging with those of television and broadcasting. Mr Allen said yesterday the new team would oversee an aggressive strategy aimed at extending Granada's

broadcasting interests".

Underlying his personal in-volvement, Mr Allen will today meet executives of BSkyB, the satellite broadcaster, to seek wider distribution of Granada's eight new pay-TV services, grouped under Granada Sky Broadcasting, a joint venture with BSkyB. The new services, which in-

cial ITV service.

chude a channel dedicated to repeats of Granada programming such as Coronation Street, are

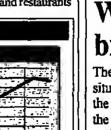
Granada also owns 36 per currently planned for trans-cent of Independent Television mission on the 1-D transponder mission on the 1-D transponder of the Astra satellite, which only reaches an estimated 30 per cent of potential viewers in the UK. Mr Allen is believed to be intent on widening the potential

> will be the first pay-TV channels launched by an ITV company. Separately, Granada will next week formally open negotiations on the sale of Welcome

audience for the services, which

Break motorway services areas and has identified at least three buyers for the chain. Welcome Break, which Granada inherited following its purchase of Forte, the hotels and restaurants

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393.60 -1.3 391.90 GDP 107.0+2.0pc 106.1 29 Apr

258.22 -0.66 244.17 Base Rates — 6.00oc 6.75

business

Asset swap paves the way for better times at Tarmac

tunes in the second half of the or three years ago.

1990s than the first. almost £2.5bn. But what is impor-tant in investment terms is that the market was already aware of a 8 and 16 per cent last year. mac's bricks business and had a pretty good idea that the company was planning to write off the whole of the £30m value of a power sta-

ing operations which are now Joe fessional services arm and contract-

£38.3m as building costs and selling £1bn. There are signs, Neville Simms, expenses soared, pushing the trading margin down from 11.9 per strong order books and positive

There were few surprises in Tarmac's mained static, so higher costs full-year figures, which had been wreaked havoc with margins. While pretty comprehensively flagged in a trading statement earlier in the year. The movement in the shares. up 8.5p to 119p, underscored the market's relief, however, that the asset swap with Wimpey appears to have paved the way for better for-lective price-cutting madness of two

990s than the first.

Profits from aggregates jumped from £45.5m to £63m, a 38 per cent first blush, with pre-tax profits collapsing from 1994's £1117.2m to just turnover. Although volumes of dry £20.3m, a dismal return on sales of and coated stone, sand and gravel,

£47m one-off loss on the sale of Tar- Encouragingly, the company is

Tarmac is not out of the woods yet. Tarmac is not out of the woods yet,
The underlying £10m fall in profits, moreover, came from the housits, moreover, came from the housreturn on sales from the new pro-Dwyer's problem at Wimpey. ing. which managed only £8.2m of profits there fell from £61.1m to ing, which managed only £8.2m of margins in the regional building There was no price inflation and business - but builders have been the number of houses built re- prematurely optimistic many times

THE INVESTMENT COLUMN

EDITED BY TOM STEVENSON

Five-Year record 1991

Farmings per share (pence) Dividends per share (pence)

Operating profit by activity £m.

pey had become also augurs well for the basis of 1997's forecast profits of

larmac : at a glance

to the increasing evidence of cost-cutting potential from the Wimpey ment to the private finance initiative ment to the private finance initiative housing for aggregates asset swap. will undoubtedly pay off eventually. Taking out the loose cannon of Against that backdrop, a forward quarry products pricing that Wim-price/earnings multiple of 10.7, nn Exports give

107.2

before in the last five years. That said, the market warmed yesterday housing was plainly the right thing against a sector average of 11.3. A

against a sector average of 11.3. A 5.8 per cent yield underpins the

Highland a lift

After years of cut-throat competition in the whisky market, Highland Distilleries is at last seeing glimmers

of hope.
Orders for new fillings, the whisky
Highland sells to other blenders to
put into their own brands, are up 31

More importantly, last month Highland pushed through a 30p price rise on its mainstay Famous Grouse brand taking it to £12.29 a bottle, thereby maintaining the pre-mium over the best-selling Bell's, owned by Guinness.

At the same time, Grouse has seen sales increase in each of the first three months of 1996 and has raised share of the non-pub market south its market share from 13 per cent to of the border and last year's acqui-

13.7 per cent. That sort of performance holds out the promise that the industry's stocks are now moving into

Sition of Black Bottle from Allied Domecq should help.

But even if the British market. better balance, raising hopes that the cycle may at last be turning up, which should benefit premium brands such

But Highland is by no means in the clear yet and vesterday's results show how bloody things have been. Pre-tax profits slid 6 per cent to f22.2m in the six months to 29 February, after the operating result nudged ahead 1 per cent to £13.8m.

Grouse, which contributes 45 per cent of Highland's bottom line, had a thin time of it, with profits sliding £1.5m in the UK after it was forced to join in the hefty "promotions" of-

fered by its rivals.

This sort of discounting is something that has been eschewed by Highland in the past, but its prices clearly moved seriously out of line last year, causing its market share to slump to 12.1 per cent last spring.

Management did well to recover the lost ground in the second half, without having to discount at Christmas, and end up with a maintained market share of 13 per cent in the

Highland sees scope to increase its

which fell 6 per cent last year, is now on the turn, it remains uninspiring. with supermarkets still calling the

Highland's launch mto the highly competitive gin market is unlikely to change that view, so the excitement must remain in the scope for pro-

moting its brands overseas.
With increased sales to other diswith increased sales to other dis-tillers, exports made up for the UK shortfall from Famous Grouse in the first half and the launch of Gold Re-serve should help penetration of the brand in the Far East.

The problem for investors is that. Highland continues to be run like a

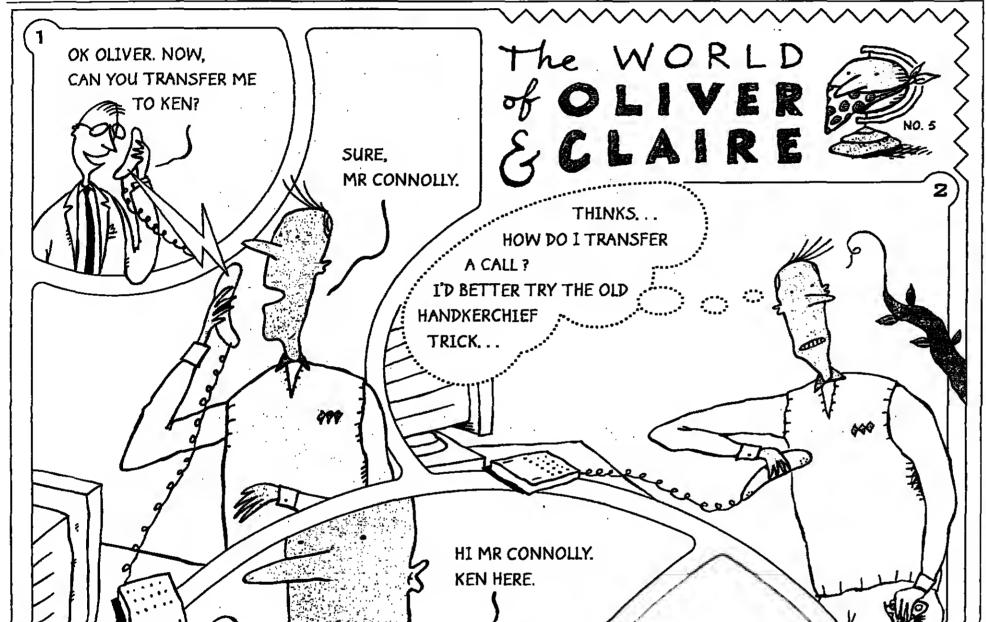
private company.

It is not clear why the company It is not clear why the company needs a 26 per cent stake in Macallan-Glenlivet or the cross-shareholding in Remy Comtreau and the unquoted Rohertson & Baxter group to cement trading relationships with those companies. But their presence constitutes a potent poison.

pill against predators.

Greig Middleton's forecast of profits of £42m this year would put the shares, up 8p at 352p, on a forward rating of 10.

MI und hreat. Sa George



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Tiddler scotches opportunistic carpetbaggers



Famous victories: Peter Brown in rugby-playing days

The idea of "carpetbaggers" who put small amounts of money into lots of different building societies in the hope that they will receive a cash windfall when the societies convert into banks is well

But it has taken Scottish Building Society to turn it into a nationalist issue. The Edinburgh-based society, which has 20,000 customers and £100m in assets - a tiddler compared, say, with Nationwide - says it "has closed its doors to would-be carpetbaggers from south of the border opening small ac-counts in the hope of gaining a bonus in the event of the Society converting to a plc or being taken over

Furthermore, the society's chairman is Peter Brown, the former Scottish rugby captain who led Scotland to three famous victories over England. Mr Brown declared: "We may be a relatively small society but we are financially very strong and our real members would be appalled if we were to convert or he taken over. To paraphrase the words of the Flower of Scotland we are "sending this army of speculators homeward tae think

Scottish Building Society is one of five that have thrown out customer activist Michael Hardern as a mem-ber. So far he has joined 52 societies.

Mr Hardern, a freelance butler, founded a group called "Members for Conversion" last year to try to persuade societies to ditch muluality, thereby triggering bonuses. Yesterday Mr Hardern said he had also been chucked out of Norwich & Peterborough, Nalional Counties, Portman and Market Harborough. "I'm going to exhaust their internal complaints procedures before I go to the Building Society Ombuds-

sell insurance by phone.

man," he warned last night. Under the rules he needs to persuade only 100 members of each society to petition for a "special general meeting". and he can then force the board to explain why they don't want to convert and trigger the payouts.

A spokesman for tScottish Building Society described this attitude yesterday as "quite stupid ... it is disturbing and expensive. There's no way we could afford to convert."

Congratulations to Will Hutton, the popular newly-ele-vated editor of the Observer, who committed his very first round of sackings on Monday. But hang on a minute whatever happened to the caring, sharing philosophy espoused in his best-seller. The State We're In? Isn't this exactly the kind of beastly capitalist behaviour he deplores? Whatever, it suggests a new stant perhaps on what a "stakcholder" economy is: you risk getting one between the shoulder blades.

Lille, husting the G7 jobs summit this week, has been keen to tell the world's press about the merits of its surrounding region, Nord Pas de Calais. Its information pack suffers a little in the translation: "Population: dense and young". This does not mean the place is full of Gallic Beavis and Buttheads. What it means is that the area has 319 inhabitants packed into each square kilometre, of whom 38 per cent

The American delegates to the Lille summit expressed concern yesterday that many of the new jobs produced by their economy recently were. of the low quality "burgerflipping variety. Apparently, the latest Washington joke goes: "Bill Clinton has created 8.4 million jobs - and I've gol three of them."

The people who insure your racehorses can now insure your bnuse and your family jewellery as well. Charles Hamilton is joining the board of the British Bloodstock Agency to beef up its insurance side, which started off when customers needed to insure the horses they were buying and selling. Mr Hamilton, 41, who will remain managing director of bloodstock broker Bradstock Hamilton, said: "It's like estate agents snaffling house hovers for mortgages, and then expanding into the mortgage business in its own right. We can insure the other possessions of horse namers - the farm, the wife's jewellery. We are also using the client list to sell other prodncts." Direct Line can relax, however. There are no plans to

The state of the s

'Under Sir Colin Southgate, Thom EMI has been transformed from a many-faceted collection of underperforming also-

rans into a finely tuned Formula One racer'

Alongside pharmaceuticals and finan-cial services, music is one of the industries Britain is meant to be good at. We may have failed in automobiles, shipbuilding, and many other areas of heavy manufacturing. hut in popular music we still reign supreme. Well, almost, anyway. Now it looks possible that our flag-carrier company in this indus-

try, Thorn EMI, is going to succumb to a takeover bid. And in all prohability, it will come from a foreign concern - Japanesc (Sony), German (Bertelsmann) or Ameri-

can (Time Warner or Disney).

Over the past few days, Thorn's shares have soared. Normally in such circumstances, the Takeover Panel would require the company to make a formal statement, to confirm or deny a takeover approach. Silence can be taken to mean that Thorn is not aware of anything that might cause its sbare price to rise in this way. Even if there are no current talks, however, nobody is going to helieve that this soon-to-bedemerged company is anything but one of the hottest takeover targets in town.

Does it matter if Thorn EMI is absorbed into some giant international, but foreign controlled, multimedia empire? Yes, of course it does. It matters because if those taking the decisions owe no altegiance to Britain - to its culture, institutions, economy and people - then ultimately they will act against those interests or at least in ignorance of them

tionals are no longer generally thought the force for evil they once were. Even so, in no Other developed country would it be remotely possible to acquire a world beating company like Thorn EMI. It is nothing short of a national disgrace that the stock market helieves it possible here.

Under Sir Colin Southgate, Thorn EMI has been transformed from a many-faceted collection of underperforming also-rans into a finely tuned Formula One racer. Following the mantra of our age - shareholder value - Sir Colin bas focused the business on its core music interests. With demerger of the TV rental arm next August, the process will be complete. In so doing, however, Sir Colin has made Thorn EMI, one of the big five music companies in the world, into a silting duck for a takeover. It is as if the company bas been deliberately groomed to become part of a larger entertainments

"Focus" may be the buzz word for most companies nowadays, but in media, enter-tainment and telecommunications it is very definitely out. Here the fashion is for "convergence", for the coming together of wbat in the past bave heen seen as very different businesses. The groupings that will succeed are those with access to the best copyright and distribution across a range of different entertainment products. Having focused

ing place. The hig-is-beautiful philosophy of ligiven the opportunity to build his own husiness is enjoying a revival and multinal more broadly based entertainment and publication. Byatt was comforted by a side letter from has already had a taste of what deregulation husiness is enjoying a revival and multinal more broadly based entertainment and publications. Byatt was comforted by a side letter from has already had a taste of what deregulation can bring. BT bas 150 licensed competitors. lishing group - not sold down the river to the highest bidder. But don't expect either the City or the politicians to listen.

Byatt gets a second chance

The water watchdog, lan Byatt, may have given North West Water a reprieve as far as its quality standards and handling of last summer's drought is concerned. But can he afford to be so generous when dealing with the huge savings North West plans to squeeze out of its merger with Norweb?

It was obvious from the start that the merger bad more to do with financial engi-neering than customer service hut nobody quite expected the deluge of goodies that would flow in the direction of shareholders when the dividend tap is turned full on.

North West justified the fancy price paid for Norweb on the grounds of the £95m annual savings it could wring out of the com-bined business, largely by shedding jobs. We now know that savings will be 40 per cent higher than that by the turn of the century, generating £500m to fund a payout which shareholders could see rising by 11 per cent in real terms a year.

Remarkably the regulators did not intervene when the deal was first concocted to The world is a fast-shrinking and chang- his company so expertly. Sir Colin should be redirect some of this cash to customers. Mr

look after customers if savings should prove higher than forecast.

His opposite number at Offer. Professor Stephen Littlechild, was content, meanwhile, with assurances that the two regulated businesses would be ring-fenced to prevent cross-subsidies or a situation arising where customers who refused to pay their electricity bill found the water cut off. Despite United Utilities revealing the true size of the cash pile locked away in its halance sheet, the regulators have still not blinked.

It is always difficult for regulators to intervene once a price regime has been set hut Mr Byatt bas proved be could do it when the water industry's compensation scheme was not delivering the goods. When Hyder, the union forged by the merger of Welsh Water and Swalec, follows United Utilities' lead in the next few weeks by spelling out its cost savings, Mr Byatt has another chance to act.

US levels telecoms playing field

Merger mania in the US telecoms mar-ket is a sure sign of things to come around the world. Technological advance and commercial logic are finally being released from the shackles of national regulation, and the winner if all turns out as expected will the winner, if all turns out as expected, will be the consumer. The UK telecoms market

including a range of cable operators whose US owners have for some years now heen able to do what their own government prohibited, offer both broadcasting and telephony services. The passage of the telecoms bill in the US means the same convergence can start to occur there as well.

But much remains to be done. BT still overwhelmingly dominates the UK market. despite more than 10 years of deregulation. In Europe, the EU is pushing for the liberalisation of telephony by 1998, hut some national governments continue to drag their feet. Several technical issues have yet to be resolved - notably, the right of all service providers to have fair and open access to national telecoms networks.

More crucially still, there are bottlenecks galore in the global telecommunications sys-tem, where hig operators run what amounts to a cartel for international connections, akin to the agreements that govern air traffic routes. All this needs to be swept aside, allowing companies to offer their services on the basis of price and quality. Advances in technology ought to bring the price of phone calls down to next to nothing: companies will earn their money not so much through the provision of infrastructure hut on tailored, consumer products and services. The sooner truly liberalised markets can be created, the faster the benefits will accrue

EMU under threat, says George

MICHAEL HARRISON

The launch of a single European currency in 1999 is under threat hecause of the recent slowdown in Europe's economies, the Governor of the Bank of England Eddie George conceded yesterday.

Speaking after a meeting in Frankfurt of the European Monetary Institute, the forerunner of the planned European Central Bank, Mr George nighlighted the poor record of member states on curbing public deficits - one of the key convergence targets of the Maastricht Treaty

This has been caused by higher than planned levels of public spending as governments in several European Union economies have been caught in the trap between lower tax revburgeoning social se-

curity payments.
The EMI's annual report. published vesterday, accepts that in the large majority of the 15 EU member states, public deficits were well in excess of the levels needed to meet the cri-

teria for a single currency. This is certain to be seized on by critics of economic and monetary union, who argue that the drive towards a single currency will only produce more hardship, unemployment and rising

The institute said structural deficits remained high in most countries as did the share of the economy taken up by the public sector.

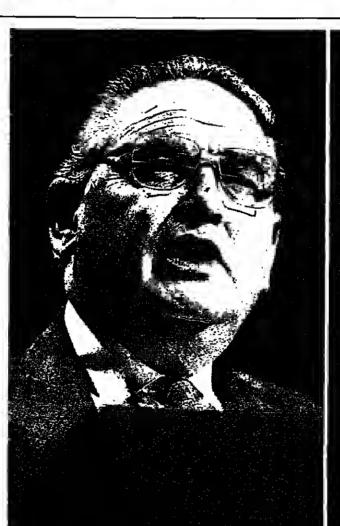
However, the EMI said economic difficulties across Europe, caused by high interest rates, German wage settlements and slowdown in US growth, were no justification for postponing the measures needed to achieve economic convergence.

Alexandre Lamfalussy, the institute's president, said: "The present economic slowdown in Europe does not provide a justification for postponing necessary consolidation measures." He also argued that fiscal con-

solidation could be achieved without causing further economic slowdown, provided the focus was on cutting public expenditure rather than raising taxes. The institute's comments

were being seen as a clarion call to supporters of EMU to redouble their efforts to sell the concept across the Union in what is likely to be crucial year on the path to monetary union.

Under the Maastricht timetable, member states are due to decide whether to submit to a single currency by the heginning of 1998.



Two views of Europe: Eddie George (left) warned about high deficits but Alexandre Lamfalussy, the Monetary Institute's president, said the economic slowdown was no justification for postponing monetary union

The conversion rates at which individual currencies enter would then be fixed in January, 1999, effectively marking the start of the single

Banknotes and coins for the single currency, the Euro, would then be introduced in January. 2002, with national banknotes ceasing to be legal tender in July

down in the second half of 1995 were likely to be temporary. It also noted that levels of consumer demand, which

The EMI said the factors bad been expected to support which contributed to the slow- an economic upswing, remained weak. However, it forecast a pick-up in growth in 1996, due to rising domestic

Cassidy swings axe in shake-up at Liberty

TOM STEVENSON

Denis Cassidy, the former British Home Stores and Boddington chief, swung the axe yesterday at Liberty, the prestige department store and fabrics group. Nine months after taking over as chairman, he saw off chief executive Patrick Austen and three other board members, promised lower profits for the year to January and a radical re-structuring of the group, and warned that the dividend would

be passed. Mr Austen, who took over as chief executive in April 1993, was employed on a three-year contract on a salary of £192,000 last year. The terms of a severance payment have been fi-nalised but Mr Cassidy was not prepared to disclose the amount of compensation, save that it would be less than Mr Austen's full contractual entitlement.

His replacement will he lan Thomson, former head of Sears' British Shoe subsidiary and with 16 years experience of retailing in South Africa.

Liberty, which started life as family-owned husiness in 1875, warned that profits before tax and exceptional items would not amount to more than £2.1m for the year to January, compared with £3.6m in the previous period. The size of a tional charge to cover the reorganisation of the group remained under wraps.

diding in age carwill ere the any ons en-

500

Mr Cassidy said the review. which has yet to be finalised. would aim at revitalising the Liberty brand internationally and at developing the retailing format at the group's flaship store on Regent Street. The abrupt departure of Mr

Austen suggests a deterioration in relations since he welcomed Mr Cassidy to the group nine months ago, saying: "Clearly he will be part-time as be has other responsibilities. He will have authority within the company, but he is not going to be running the company or any of its divisions. In fact Mr Cassidy has taken

a tight grip on the running of Liberty, with the resignation from the board yesterday of three directors, Tony Salem, John Pugh, and John Laflin, all of whom will, however, retain responsibility for former areas of control: retailing, finance and furnishings and fabrics.

There was no real surprise in the City, where Liberty's thinly traded shares closed only 3p lower at 303p.

The cut in the final dividend

means the interim payment of 1.85p will he the total for the yearagainst last year's 7.2p payout. It bad been held at that level since 1992, despite a steady proposed "substantial" excep- decline in the group's profits.

National Lottery knocks Littlewoods profits

RUSSELL HOTTEN

IN BRIEF

the full price of a share.

ternational companies and institutions.

probably suffer loss as a result

The National Lottery hit profits at the pools and retail group Littlewoods, which yesterday warned that the company had yet to feel the full effect of Britain's favourite gamhling Annual profits at Little-

woods fell from £116m to £97.3m, capping a controversial year in which the UK's largest private company was embroiled

in boardroom turmoil and akeover speculation.

Littlewoods, two years into a five-year restructuring plan, dampened suggestions that more executives were about to leave the company, saying that it was now performing strongly.

Although plans to introduce a mid-week National Lottery would hit the company, other husiness would see a trading improvement, Littlewoods said. "With a bit of luck, the good

the \$112m offering say neither Mr Buffett nor vice-chairman

Charles Munger would currently huy shares in Berkshire at the current price. "Nor would they recommend that their families

or friends do so." The proposal to sell an initial tranche of 100,000

B shares at a thirtieth of the current price of around \$34,000 a

share is seen as a way of pre-empting plans by other companies to launch so-called "unil investment trusts". These would allow

small investors to take a stake in Berkshire without putting up

• Ciba, the Swiss chemicals group in the midst of a merger with rivals Sandoz, is to sell its Mentler Toledo weighing and analyticity of the control of the

cal instruments division for SFr919m (f504m). The sale to AEA

Investors of the US means that plans to float Mettler Toledo in

Switzerland have been abandoned. The division, which had sales

• The High Court in London has given liquidators of the collapsed Bank of Credit and Commerce International until 26 April to an arrive the Bank of Credit and Commerce International until 26 April 10 A

to prove its compensation claims against the Bank of England.

Accountants Deloitte & Touche said they must show that the UK's

banking regulator "deliberately and knowingly" breached its obligation

ations in licensing BCCl and that it knew its depositors would probably seeming backless and that it knew its depositors would

British Rail's Network Train Engineering Services has been sold to to Vice.

sold to to WS Atkins Consultants. The company, the last of BR's three miles to make the company of the last of BR's

should outweigh the bad," said Bill Huntley, chief executive. "I would like to think that 1995 is

the point from which we grow." The National Lottery knocked 26.8 per cent off Lit-tlewoods' pools sales, which to-talled £623m in 1995. ley said that Littlewoods, owned by the secretive Moores family, had settled its differences and was confident that

the existing management could carry the company forward. Littlewoods' Home Shop-

ping mail-order business increased its market sbare and sales hut was hit by a sharp rise in bad dehts. Operating profits at the division slipped to Operating profits slipped to £60.7m from £73.9m. The com-£23.7m from £26.3m. Mr Hunt-pany's Index catalogue husiness saw operating losses almost static at £7,3m against £7m in 1994, although sales rose 9.5 per

Littlewoods said it now has 20,000 outlets for its scratcbcards and weekly turnover of around £1m, which the company admitted was small compared with the National Lottery scrateboard operation. But Mr Huntley said the operation was

Littlewoods' current yearon-year retail trading was four per cent up in the period since the company's year end, with sales at Index up 20 per cent.

The results included a £32.2m charge, which will offset the cost in part of Littlewoods' negotiating out of some of its concessions contracts.

The company dropped its tobacco concessions last year and some of its current concessions with retail group Iceland will be dropped this year. The extra space would be used by Littlewoods to expand its Berkertex own-lahel clothing

Green light for Berkshire Hathaway, the investment vehicle of veteran investor Warren Buffett, is selling a new class of shares with a difference. £200m centre These come with a health warning from the great man himself. Filings with America's Securities and Exchange Commission for

TOM STEVENSON

A £200m shopping centre de-velopment in the heart of London is set to go ahead after it emerged yesterday that Elliott Bernerd's Chelsfield property company has succeeded in its bid to take control of a controversial 37-acre site in White City. writes Tom Stevenson.

The site, larger than Brent of over SFr1bn last year, will retain its existing management. AEA is one of the oldest private investment companies in the US. Its Cross in the north of the capital with 5,000 parking spaces, shareholders include 50 current or former heads of major incould be worth up to £500m on completion, analysts believe.

Chelsfield has been working for several months on plans to iron out the problems that had dogged the site for years. With part of the site owned by Godfrey Bradman, the former Rosehangh boss, and planning permission in the hands of sainsbury's, proposals to develop it appeared to bave run into the sand.

som to to WS Atkins Consultants. The company, the last of BR's three railway engineering services companies to move into the three railway engineering services private sector, offers specialist engineering consultancy services private sector, offers specialist engineering consultancy services private sector, offers specialist engineering consultancy services to the traction and rolling stock industry. The business employs to the traction and rolling stock industry. The business employs about 120 people at Derby. Euston and Croydon. Mr Bernerd succeeded, however, in persuading a range of interested parties, including hig institutional funds such as Gen-

eral Accident and Scottish Amicable, to sell out or go along with Chelsfield's proposals. The balance of power shifted last September when the property company acquired the Vanderbilt Racquet Cluh, which occupied part of the site, gaining a place at the negotiating table.

A lease has already been signed by Sainsbury's, which has pre-committed to take 77,500 sq ft of the development for a su-

Discussions are also under way with the local planning authority, Hammersmith & Fulham, to agree a detailed planning consent as soon as possible. Once that comes through, construction is expected to begin in the early part of next year with completion before the year 2000.

Chelsfield already owns 90 per cent of the Merry Hill shopping centre in the West Midlands, where rising rents helped it buck the recent trend in the property market with a 6 per cent rise in net assets in the year to December to 190.20.

German rules put Rover in red

vealed last month, became a £148m loss yesterday as owner BMW highlighted the difference between UK and German accounting rules, writes Russell

BMW said its UK division bad sunk into the red, after making a £16m profit in 1994, because Germany's conservative accounting methods meant higher investment and depreciation costs were included. Two weeks ago Rover announced that under UK ac-

counting its profits had risen to £91m from £83m. A spokesman said BMW, which paid British Aerospace £529m for Rover two years ago, bad lifted its investment in the division by 30 per cent to

more than £500m in 1995. "The depreciation charges are purely as a result of the high level of capital investment which is itself a measure of BMW's confidence in the company," he said.

That planned investment is

Rover Group's £91m profit, re- of the decade with an expected £2bn being spent on upgrading facilities, a new engine plant, and launching new models.
Rover's sales revenue bad

risen to £5.6bn from £4.9bn, while car production rose 4.8 per cent to 501,300 vehicles, BMW said. Sales for the group as a whole rose 2 per cent to DM11.5bn (£5.18bn) in the first three months of 1996. Production during the same period fell 6 per cent to 284,900 units while car deliveries to customers slipped one per cent to 265,200 units.

Production at Rover fell 3 per cent in the first quarter to 132,400 units. "For 1996 as a whole, we expect an increase over 1995 in production and sales for both BMW and Rover," Bernd Pieschetsrieder, BMW's chairman, said yesterday. In 1995, BMW group car

production totalled 1,098,582 vehicles, with the Rover unit showing a rise in production of 34.1 per cent. BMW previously reported group net profit down slightly to DM692m in 1995 expected to continue for the rest from DM697m a year earlier.

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market report/shares

Thorn sparks renewed interest in takeover favourites

FT-SE 100 3,728.5 + 10.1FT-SE 250 4,348.7 + 21.8FT-SE 350

1,877.2 + 6.0SEAQ VOLUME 931.3m shares, 54,217 bargains **Gitts Index**



The excitement over Thorn exchange with Rank Organi-EMI, which sent the shares sation. spinning 140p higher to 1,843p, prompted stock market specniators to scamper after some

other old takeover favourites. Even United Biscuits, a en down, dusted and pressed into service by investors seeking a likely target. a bid. And with few Thorn
The Thorn adventure shareholders likely to sell

caught the market on the hop. After trading moderately highas punters piled in on stories of a deal today.

Sony of Japan was the favourite to pounce. Time Warner of the US and Seagram, the Canadian drinks giant with showbiz interests. were other names in the frame. Rumoured bid price was £23.

The story Thorn would sell its music side, thereby removing the need for the demerg-

Rumours of Thorn action have circulated for a long time. It was after intensive market speculation that the group decided to demerge its music and perennial candidate, was tak- rental operations. But the run-up to the split, due in June, has left it vulnerable to

ahead of what should be a rewarding demerger the group is er the shares suddenly took off at the mercy of speculators. Those who felt they had missed the Thorn boat were again happy to bank on Zeneca, another 15p up at 1,403p; Bank of Scotland (5p at 247.5p) and a number of in-

surance groups.
Some alighted on UB, 351p a year ago. The shares gained 7p to 241p. It has had a dreadful time and trading is likely to remain tough. UB looks a sit-

MARKET REPORT

DEREK PAIN Stock market reporter of the year

Insurers were helped by an-alytical activity with Société Générale Strauss Turnbull favouring General Accident, GRE and United Friendly and Nat West Securities picking Legal & General, up op to 692p. Nat West regards L&G as a buy

up to 750p. The sector is, however, prone to take overtalk. There are persistent stories of strikes with the likes of National Westminster Bank, as well as Continental insurers, said to be

Metals group Johnson Matthey, which nearly merged with Cookson, was at one time

BET, struggling to resist the Rentokil bid, was little changed at 204p. There were suggestions M&G was pressing the group to try to agree a deal with Rentokil

BT and Cable & Wireless suffered a bout of nerves with BT off 7p at 375.5p and Cable The FT-SE 100 index end-

ed a mixed session 10.1 points higher at 3,728.5 with the supporting FT-SE 250 index stretching to another peak, up 21.8 to 4,348.7.

Option-trading lifted British Gas 7.5p to 235.5p and Rolls-Royce firmed to 217p on SBC

Vodafone pushed ahead 6.5p to 255.5p still celebrating its 3 millionth subscriber. It was also helped by a fall in the cost of handsets. Orange, with Kleinwort Benson saying buy.

recovered 8.5p to 234p.

BSkyB fell 13p to 438p with
NatWest suggesting an £80m
downgrading would be needed if the satellite television group lost its Premiership TV rights. Ulster TV gave up 40p to 1,340p as Panmure Gordon cut its forecast.

Oils were firm as the crude price continued to move ahead Shell gained 7p to 847p.

T&N, the car components group, fell 4p to 168p; it has lost an asbestos damages appeal. Zotefoams, a chemical group, tumbled 60p to 279p following

a profit warning.

Astec (BSR), the Hong Kong-based electrical group, gained 7p to 137.5p. Invest-

interest. Persistent takeover hopes and strong trading have lifted the shares from an 8p low in 1991. On the electricity pitch London managed the most pow-

erful display, up 17p at 763p on vague talk of a bid.

ber the group announced profits of £2m. Thames Water, up 2p at 574p, was mentioned as a possible predator.

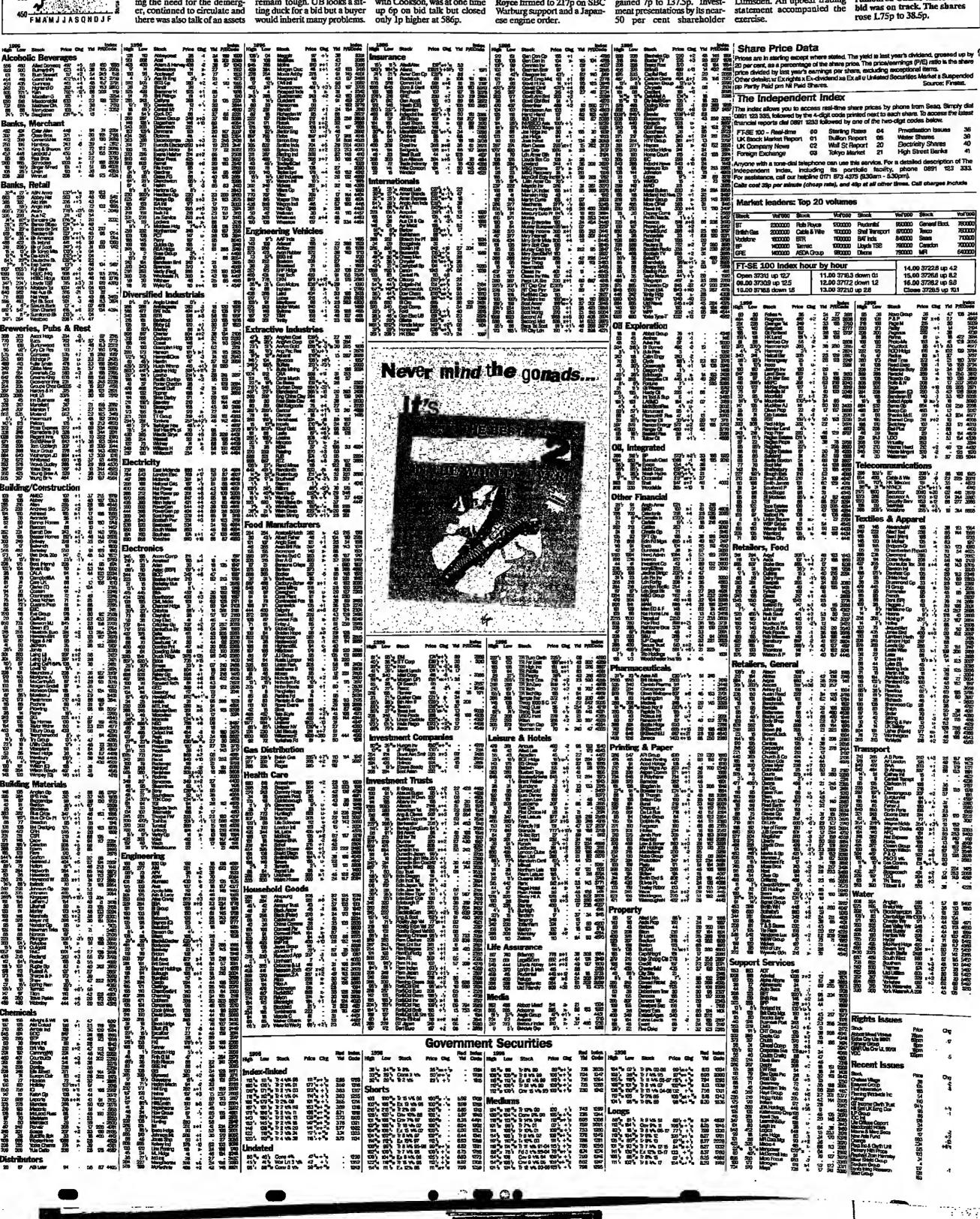
Systems Integrated Research, an educational software group placed by Durlacher at Easynet, the Internet group which touched 130p on its flotation last week, moved 3p lower to 105p, just 5p below its

issue price. Magnum Power, providing continuous power for computers, improved 13p to 151p. It raised £1.5m through a placing at 140p by Henry Cooke Lumsden. An upbeat trading

Emerson Electric sparked the Dicona, a document image processing group, is expected to be the next AIM star. The shares were placed at 270p and there is talk they could hit 320p when dealings get under way today. In Decem-

J Bibby, the material handling to laboratory equipment group controlled by Barlow of South Africa, firmed to 120p. It is trading 115p, closed at 128p. But well and should demonstrate another strong profit advance when it reports interim figures next month. Bibby shares were down to 49p two

> ☐ Shares of Bardon, the aggregates group, traded busily, reviving suggestions that the bid was on track. The shares rose 1.75p to 38.5p.





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United Friendly, the UK insurer, announced a 24 per cent increase in dividend payments yesterday, despite unveiling significant falls in new premium income across most of its product range in 1995.

The company said yesterday that pre-tax profits rose last year to more than £128m, compared with losses of £32m in 1994. United's figures were boosted by strong investment returns in 1995, which added more than £90m to its profits.

Pre-tax operating profits on the same hasis as the previous method of reporting, changed in the wake of new EU regulations last year, were £54.7m, up from £47.6m 1994

However, the company said ordinary branch annual premium income fell 10 per cent to £19.3m. while new industrial branch business fell by 28 per cent to £9.1m.

Sales of ordinary branch nonlinked annual husiness advanced by 6 per cent. Unitlinked new annual income fell by 31 per cent.

Richard Balding, chief executive, said the premium in- year. The dividend increase recome figures reflected a flected "excellent" investment "difficult year across the entire returns, the company said.

life insurance industry". Unit-ed also hopes to benefit from an anticipated recovery in premi-

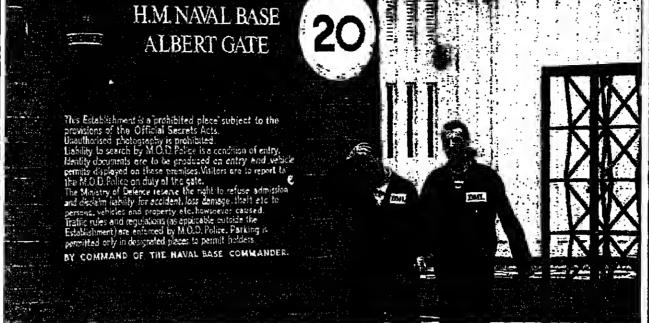
um income in the coming year. Despite the drop in premium income, insurance analysts were happy with the company's dividend payout, up 24 per cent to 24.8p a share. Shares closed up

32p al 809p. Patrick Wolridge Gordon, at SG Strauss Turnbull, said: "It is the sixth time in the past eight years that the company has in-creased its payout by more than 20 percent and [it] has a lot more bullets to fire."

Roman Cizdyn, insurance analyst at Merrill Lynch, said: "The figures are basically very good. The dividend increase is a sign of what it's all about."

Among the positive features in last year's results was that despite an increase to £53.1m during 1995 in the company's provision for mis-selling in the pension transfer scandal, the amount was broadly equivalent to the investment return carned on underlying assets.

Shareholders also gained from profits on the orphan assets identified in the long-term fund, which rose to £371.8m last



On the blocks: Government plans to privatise Devonport Royal Navy Dockyard are said to be in chaos

MoD delays Devonport decision

RUSSELL HOTTEN

Government plans to privatise Devonport Royal Naval Dockyard were said to be in chaos last night after the Ministry of Defence delayed a decision about

Although the MoD said Devonport would be awarded a huge contract to upgrade its facilities, there was no news of the expected sale of the yard to a US-led consortium. The yard has been chosen to re-fit Trident nuclear submarines, but critics say it can be done more cheaply at Rosyth, in Scotland.

Sources said that an MoD

Interest Rates

layed because of the pressure of government business, and it was possible that a statement may be made today.

It is believed that the Ply-

mouth yard will be sold to chaos reigns. It is now really a DML, the current managers of question of how to maintain Devonport, in which Americanowned Brown and Root has a 51 per cent stake. Plans to sell the Rosyth shippard, at Fife, to Babcock International are also

expected to be announced soon. Current management contracts for both yards, which were due to expire on Friday, have been extended. Labour said the MoD's plans were in

ernment of playing politics with people's jobs. David Clark, shadow defence

morale at the yards." Jack Dromey, national secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union,

added: "This is the long-awaited announcement that never was. Clarity was promised, but confusion reigns."

A 1993 decision to award a £5bn Trident submarine re-fit contract to Devonport, and

Liffe Financial Futures

announcement had been de- tatters and accused the Gov- slowly concentrate all other nuclear submarine maintenance there, was thrown in doubt last year. The Government revealed secretary, said: "Ideology has completely taken over and that Rosyth might have to be given the re-fit work because of extensive modifications needed at the Devonport nuclear docks.

Now the MoD has awarded Devonport with a further £300m-£350m contract to carry out the necessary docks conversion work. The contract is about £100m more than had been expected. James Arhuthnot, defence procurement minister, said the MoD had signed an outline agreement with DML for the sale.

In Brief

 Hickson International has plunged from profits of £19.2m to a £43.3m loss in 1995. The restructuring initiated by new chairman James Hann cost £20.3m, £7.5m higher than expected in November's profits warning due to the costs of renegotiating borrowing facilities after Hickson breached an interest cover covenant.

 Zotefoams warned that a stock overhang at its largest customer would hit first half profits. The shares crashed 60p to 279p. Analysis downgraded profit forecasts for this year and next by around £1m, taking them to around £7.5m for 1996 and £9.5m for 1997.

 Cliveden, the Berkshire hotel and country club owner, which also owns a 25 bedroom hotel in London, priced its forthcoming flotation at 73p a share yesterday, putting a £24.7m value on the whole company. Dealings are expected to begin on April 11. Cliveden plans to raise £7.4m from the float, which follows the recent market debut of Macdonald Hotels and precedes the upcoming listing of Millenium & Copthorne Hotels.

 Waterfird Wedgwood announced record profit before tax of IRE28.1m in 1995, the third successive year of profit growth and a period described hy chairman Tony O'Reilly as "an important milestone on the road to excellence in global branding". Sales of Waterford and Wedgwood products rose 13 and 14 per cent

	Turnover £	Pre-tax £	EPS	Dividend
CIA Group (F)	506.4m (468.16m)	6.68m (5.35m)	7.65p (6 71p)	2.169 [-]
CLS Holdings (F)	827.1m (24.54m)	8.28m (12.24m)	67.8p (15.7p)	5.25p (4.92p)
Dogenkum Motors (F)	267 4m (227.5)	5.1m (4.09m)	14.4p (11.4p)	7.7p (7.0p)
GBE luternational (F)	57.1m (38.47m)	1.7m (-S.38m)	2.7p (-7.72p)	1.5p (1.5p)
Gowings (F)	50.9m (60.3m)	811,000 (322,000)	6.68p (4.97p)	2750 (2.250)
James Halstead (1)	38.1m (35.7m)	4.96m (4.74m)	10.88p (10 49p)	3.25p (3.0p)
Hicheon lett (F)	413.3m (414.0m)	-43.3m (43 3m)	S,6p (4.8p)	-24.7p (8.9p)
Highland DistRierles (1)	101.8n (106.1bn)	22.2m (23.7m)	12.0p (12.6p)	2p (1.9p]
Innovations Group (SP)	97.65m (74.0m)	9.82m (128.000)	13.20 (11.40)	48.9p (0.89p)
JBA Holdlegs (F)	124.6m (90.6m)	8.71m (5.13m)	16.31p (12.13p)	4p (3.3p)
Dasks Stores (F)	60,9m (47.1)	9 87m (9.23m)	11.54p (11.52p)	3.33 (-)
Scholl (F)	207.1m (188.5m)	17.07m (2.8m)	13.0p (-4.1p)	7p (6.4p)
Tarmac (F)	2.48bn (2.51bn)	20 3m (107.2m)	0.1p (7.8p)	5.5p (5.5p)
United Friendly (F)	- (-)	128.2m (-32.3m)	111.9p (-35.2p)	24.8p (20p)
Walter Greenhaak (F)	95.86m (74.97m)	9 S7m (9.02m)	S.57p (6.23p)	3.70 (3.80)
Waterland Wedgwood (F)	¥344,5m (lr325m)	128.1m (172.6m)	Ir3.39pp (Ir2.90p)	111.2p (·)
Wette State Bearne (F)	104,8m (86,3m)	11.25m (9.88m)	31.7p (27.9p)	15.2p (13.5p)
(F) - Float (f) - Interes	(AC) - Nine months			

			•
Foreign	Exchange	Rates	

Sterling				Dollar		,	D-Mark
Country	Spot	1 month	3 months	Spot	1 month	3 months	Spot
US	15243	9-7	22-19	1000		_'	0.5749
Canada	20663	11-3		13556	2-1	2-0	0.9748
Germany	2.2587			14818	26-26	80-76	10000
France	7.6965	140-118		50492	64-57	164-154	34075
Italy	23846			1564.4	57-84	170-182	1055.73
Japan	163.70	75-70		107.40	45-44	136-133	72.4760
ECU	12139		45-40	12558	7-6	23-25	05374
Belgum	46404			30443	58-48	17.3-14.7	205446
Dermark.	8.7175	138-95		5.7190	60-40	175-125	3,8595
Netherlands	25261	63-54		16572	32-29	96-91	1184
Ireland	0.9698			15719	3-6	6-10	0.4293
Norway	9.7884	116-64		6.4216	42-17	110-60	43336
Span	189.91	39-48		124.59	32-36	97-105	840803
Sweden	10165	9-15	23-34	6.6686	98-123	260-310	45003
Switzerland	1,8187	68-60	197-185	11932	38-35	111-105	0.2052
Australia*	19474	20-31	67-85	12775	19-21	54-58	0.8821
Hong Kong	11.788	101-61	224-170	77335	2-12	15-35	5.2190
Mataysia	3.8524		0-0	25273	414	60-80	17058
New Zealand	22264			14605	30-32	88-90	0.9856
Saudi Arabia	5.7172		0-0	3.7507	2-7	9-14	25312
Smgapore	21421	0-0	0-0	14053	41-30	103-88	

Other Spot Rates

7

Country	Sterling	Dollar	Country	Sterling	Dotar	
Argentina	15243	0.9997	Nigeria	126863	83,2000	
Austria	58822	10,4193	Oman	0.5870	0.3850	
Brazil	15054	0.9873	Pakistan	52.5835	344855	
China	12.7075	8.3339	Philippines	399955	26.2300	
Egypt.	5.1910	3.4066	Portugat	233.233	153010	
Finland	7.0694	4.5363	Oatar	55497	36420	
Ghana	239999	1575.00	Russia	744102	468003	
Greece	367.019	240.700	South Africa	6.1152	40105	
India	517501	33.9500	Taiwan	415173	272280	
Kuwart	04565	0.2994	UAE	58006	36730	
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*Dottar rates quoted as reoprocals.

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Bond Sountry IK IS	Yield	7.40 6.01 1.63 8.46	10yr 81/% 51/% 31%	9ield % 8.01 6.26 3.05 8.72	Country Netherlands Spain Haly Belgium	9% 10'k% 10'k% 7'%	16960 s yield % 533 900 10.26 5.43	10yr 6% 10,15% 10,15% 6,1%	954 10.70
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Bond 1 Country IX IS Repen Lustralia Germany	Yield	7.40 6.01 1.63 8.46	10yr 81/% 51/% 31%	9ield % 8.01 6.26 3.05 8.72	Country Netherlands Spain Haly Belgium	9% 10'k% 10'k% 7'%	16960 s yield % 533 900 10.26 5.43	10yr 6% 10,15% 10,15% 6,1%	954 10.70

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Austra (Schillings)	15.2700	Germany(Marks)	23890	Norway(Kroner)	95300
Belgium(Francs)	448800	Greece(Drachmet)	358,8000	Portugal(Escurios)	2270000
Canada(Dollars)	2.0130	Hong Kong (Dollars	115850	Spain(Pasatas)	183,7500
Cyprus(Pounds)	06975	Ireland (Punts)	0.9400	Sweden(Kronor)	99650
Denmark(Kroner)	8,4800	Itely(Lira)	23440000	Switzerland(France)	1.7530
Holland (Guilders)	24500	Japan(Yen)	161,7500	Turkey(Lira) 9	99000000
Finland (Maris)	6.9950	Matta(Lin)	05375	United States (Dollar	5) 14900
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Euro SFr FT-SE 100 FT-SE 250 Eurofra	(Jun 96) (Jun 96)	98.30 3736.0	98.33	98.30 374	2030	29083	
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Apr		89/10	50/21	23/45	7/81		

Settlement price: 3725.0		cloating offer	rpnce	
Series	3650	3700	3750	
Apr	89/10	50/21	23/45	
May	173/32	80/49	52/71	
Jun	136/52	104/71	76/93	

Apr May Jun Jul		89/10 50/21 113/32 80/4/ 136/52 104/7 159/71 128/9	23/45 52/71 76/93	7/81 31/101 53/120 78/140	
Energy Brent Crude PE 530pm		Gas of (\$/tonne) PE close *chg		Products † Spot CF NW Euro	(S/tonne)
May 2000 Jun 1882 Jul 1887 Vol: 35,249	+0.30 1858 +0.22 1655 +0.17 1653 Index: 19.73	Apr 188.25 +555 May 176.00 +375 Jun 285-50 +325 Vol: 15.543	Jun 2070	Leaded Gasoline Naphtha SC Gasol Heavy Ruel Oil	209/21 192/193 193/195 108/11

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	Bese date	+Spal	%chg Day	31 Dec	Kelyg YTD	Year ago	%chg Yr
Index	1970=100	209.25	+125	20350	+283	179.06	+1686
Agricultural	1970-100	295.20	+ 1.41	28175	+4.77	24067	+2255
Energy	1983=100	73.40	+148	7131	+293	6068	+2096
Indust'l Metals	1977-100	18753	-101	193.32	-284	30550	-8.60
Livestock	1970=100	196.8%	+168	182.71	+224	16693	+1130
Precious Metals	1973=100	503.48	-0.09	48986	+278	503.29	+0.03

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Tin		64	15-35	6450-60		1815	9150	-	25
Znc		10	51-52	1075-78	24	376	623950	+	950
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Trust Prices

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named and Alminorm Libral	ted			Deposit Fund Acc	103.74	103.74	d5.51 1.58	Case
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income Builder	6792 7053	7503	d546 302	(Accum Units)	1429	251.5	029	Jap Pac
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America	1274	1358		Health Fund Acc Income & Growth	2780	242.5	318	Fee
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ondon EC2M 3YS Sng: 0171 782 8450		2341	0.0	Recovery (Accum Units)	4317	461.7	d024	UK
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A more extensive list of Unit Trusts and Managed Funds, ranked by performance within each sector and including offer prices, is published in **GRAND PRIX** '96 RACE SCHEDULE

Argentinian GP

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Check Line:

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Results &

Teams Line: 0891 891

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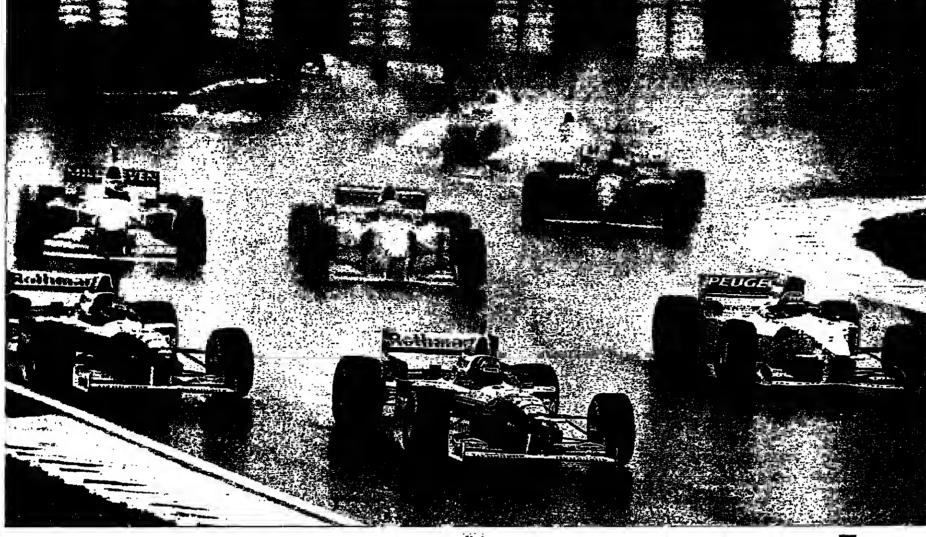
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Top 50

PLAY FORMULA DREAM TEAM



The latest scores and results

May 19 Spanish GP June 2 Canadlan GP June 16 There was only one driver to French GP bave in your team at Inter-June 30 lagos: Damon Hill. Pole po-British GP sition, fastest lap and race win, a July 14 totally dominant performance. and one of great maturity and brav-July 28 ery. At £23m, Damon doesn't Hungarian GP August 11 Belgian GP come cheap, but right now he's streets ahead of the opposition. Jacques Villeneuve's performance Italian GP in Melbourne made him look a September 8 bargain at £18m, but perhaps his Portuguese GP inexperience showed in Interlagos. September 22 It's a tricky, bumpy track, all the Japanese GP more fiendish in the wet, and October 13 Jacques was fooled into a spin by the wily Alesi.

Benetton's French-Sicilian was the only driver in the same league - and on the same lap - as Hill, bringing his Dream Team score to a respectable level after the embarassment of Melbourne. This time it was his team-mate Gerhard

Berger's turn to suffer - early retirement means a minus score, and Benetton still have a way to go to catch up Williams.

Michael Schumacher at least managed to make it to the finish this time, but be looks poor value for his £25m Dream Team salary. His Ferrari team-mate Eddie Irvine was almost anonymous in Interlagos, and the scarlet cars obviously need development. Asked where the team were losing time to Williams, Schumacher respooded despondently: "Everywhere."

Pedro Diniz is rapidly becoming the bargain buy of the season. His speed will always be impaired by the weight of his wallet, but Pedro trundles happily round at the tail of the field picking up places as other drivers fall off: he will score

DRIVER OF THE DAY: Rubens Barrichello

The young Brazilian Jordan-Peugeot driver kept the Brazilian Grand Prix alive with his frenzied pursuit of Michael Schumacher and third place. The 22-year-old from Sao Paolo was burdened with the mantle of "the next Senna! 100 early in his career, but now be is beginning to add maturity to his raw speed. His performance in qualifying was superb, using his local knowledge to great ad-

vantage to line up alongside Damion Hill on the front row. But it was the audacity of his race driving that really impressed, constantly harrying more experienced drivers in the quest for a podium place at his home Grand Prix. Sadly he was too audacious in the eod and fell off the track, but he had entertained nearly all day, and was well worth his five Dream Team points. .

a bucketload more points this season. The bulk of these will come in the "most improved" category, as Diniz tends to qualify low on the grid and finishes relatively high in the field. Anyooe thinking of entering the competition this week should put Pedro on their list. The ques, who spun off on the first lap. other bargain-basement high-Minus five poiots, and a very red achievers were Diniz's Ligier teamface, but you have to feel sorry for him: starting your first Grand Prix mate Olivier Panis, and Tyrrell's Flying Fioo Mika Salo. Black on a flooded track cannot be easy. mark of the day weot to Minardi's

Grand Prix Shopping List

POINTS SCORED

-	- E
DRIVERS	E E
£25m	
1 M Schumacher	17
£23m	
2 J Alesi	20
3 D Hill	30
£20m	
4 G Berger	
£18m 5 D Coulthard	
6 E Irvine	3
7 J Villeneuve	
£13m	
8 M Hakkinen	20
9 H H Frentzen	5
£10m -	
10 M Brundle	6
11 R Barrichello	8
12 J Herbert	
£6m	·
13 M Salo	18
14 P Lamy	8.
£4m	14
15 P Diniz 16 U Katayama	7
17 J Verstappen	-4
18 O Panis	20
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19 L Badoer	8
20 R Rosset	3
21 A Montermini	-2
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22 G Fisichella	0
23 V Sospin	0_
24 T Marques	-5
25 F Lagorce	4 0
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30 K Brack	
31 K Burt	Ö
32 E Collard	. 0.
33 N Fontana	0
34 0 Franchitti	•
35 N Larini	0
36 J Magnussen	•
37 A Prost	0
38 G Tarquini	.0
39 K Wendlinger	0

WIN a drive in a **Grand Prix car**

The Dream Team manager with the highest number of points at the end of the Grand Prix Championship season will win our top prize - a drive

in a 650bhp F1 car. You will be flown to the AGS team's training

school in the south of France for the most exhilarating experience of your life. The school specialises in F1 courses and provides all the racewear and instruction you will

need for a day driving F1

and other single seat cars.

Teams Dream All teams are in equal 1st position with 131 points.

Bighill Racing

2 Fru-Fru People 6

3 The Spoilers 4 Karvey Team Racing

5 BJ Werbangers

Racing Team 6 Goody Gum Drops

7 The Williton After

Burners 8 Herbert Grand Prix

Team 1

10 Chapman's

Chargers

9 Louies Fan Club

Tyrrells Tyrants

12 Prolapse Racing

13 Morgan's Team

14 Come On Dad

15 Schuey's Shadow 16 PJW Racing

17 Allegro Racers

18 Eagles

19 Fox's Flyers

Grand Prix debutant Tarso Mar-

20 Nick's Nitros

21 Mark's Merry Men

22 Visa F1

23 Team Mac 24 The Tarmac Eaters

25 Spoer Heity

26 Slipstream

27 Hills Angels 28 Peter's Perfect First

29 Formula Feel

Good 30 Hipala Team

Racing 31 Blue Healers

32 Driving Force Racing

33 Rileys Radicals

34 Apricom Fun House

35 No More Excuses Grand Prix

36 The Puerto Rico Team

37 Dodds 2

38 Boy Racer's Blues

39 Mug Chanders

40 Mortal Combat

41 The Day Stormers

42 The Pace Setters **43** Curtis Cruisers

44 Ocean

45 Simon's Perfect Pitstop

46 Hot Dogs

47 The Wiggly

Wagglies

48 Brad's Blazers

49 PDA Racing 50 Martin



40 Benetton	14
41 Williams	19
£18m	
42 Ferrari	14
£15m	
43 McLaren	13 .
£14m	
44 Sauber	0
45 Jordan	0
£10m	
46 Ligier	11
£6m	
47 Tyrrell	12
£5m	
48 Arrows	-4
£3m	
49 Minardi	-5
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50 Forti	-3

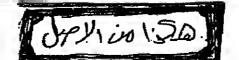
CHASSIS

£20m

ENGINES £26m 51 Renault £18m 52 Ferran £15m 53 Mercedes £12m 54 Peugeot £10m 55 Mugen 56 Ford V10 £6m 57 Yamaha £4m 58 Hart 59 Ford Zetec V8

60 Ford ED V8.

JOIN 21,000 READERS WHO ARE PLAYING FORMULA 1 DREAM See Thursday's and Friday's paper on how to register for the Argentinian Grand Prix on 7 April



National plan to push the numbers up

Racing JOHN COBB

PROVENIENT PARTE NO

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A SECTION OF THE SECT

THE PERSON NAMED IN

7 ...

For those that did not manage to find the Grand National winner, the bad news is that it is likely to be even harder next year. With only 27 runners going to post and a handicap snip becoming the first favourite to win the race for 14 years. Saturday's race presented the best chance for some time for form students to see their calculations work out. Now, the British

Frankie Dettori had just one

mount at Nottingham yesterday

hut made it tell with a victory

on Weet Ees Girl. Surprisingly

there was little interest in the fil-

ly in the betting for the Cin-

Right-hand course with resung uphili finish.

ASCOT

1.55 Miroswaki

3.35 Star Rage

GOING: Good to Firm.

2.30 Capenwray (nb)

racecourse, concerned that the race attracted the smallest field for 36 years, are to discuss changes to revamp the race in February. order to make it more com-

Of the 27 horses that took part, only nine carried their correct handicap weight, with the rest shouldering 10st even though their abilities justified a less demanding impost.

Possible changes include ensuring that the top weight carries 12st, rather than the 11st 7lb that Young Hustler humped ger to themselves and other Horseracing Board and Aintree round this year, and altering the competitors, are excluded. That

Punters miss out as Dettori rides solo

derhill Majden Stakes and she

won at the rewarding odds of

14-1 after opening up at 6-1.
Punters burned their fingers

by backing Joint Venture down

to 4-11 from 4-6. But Weet Ees

HYPERION

Course is near junction of A229 and A330. Railway station adjoins the course. AD-MISSION: Members 512 (Juno) Members aged 16-25 years, half price's Grandstand and Paddock 28, 8) wer Ring 55. CAR PARK: Parking areas number's 1, 2 & 3 54, remainder free.

LEADING TRAINERS WITH RUNNERS: M Pipe - 17 winners from 79 runners gives a success ratio of 21.5% and a profit to a 51 level stake of \$10.22; N Twiston-Davies - 16 winners, 97 runners, 16.5%, +\$11.21; D Nicholmon - 14 winners, 59 runners, 23.7%, \$10.28; O Sherwood - 14 winners, 63 runners, 22.2%, \$12.47

O SECTION OF 14 WINNESS, DS TRIMETS, MAINE, ALLIAN,

ILEADING JOCKEYS: J Osborne - D4 Wins, 124 rides, 27.4%, +547.71; E Dumwoody

- 18 wins, 117 rides, 16.2%, -550.11; A Magnire - 17 wins, 96 rides, 17.7%, -520.71; M A

Fixagerald - 14 wins, 85 rides, 16.5%, +512.50,

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: None.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Deige Marshall (2.30) has been sem 290 miles by I Wards from Mordon. Co Durtzen; Dreams End (3.35) has been sem 222 arties by P Bowen from Haverfordwest, Dyfed; Taroutlant (3.35) & Welburn Boy (5.15) have been sem 221 miles by R Woodhouse from Welburn, North Yorkshire: My Old Chains (1.35) sem 297 miles by Anthony Foster from Tideford, Cornwall; High Mind (3.35) sem 205 miles by Miss LC Std-dall from Culton, North Yorkshire; Royal Segos (2.30) & Run For Cover (6.15) sem 205 miles by Miss LD and Std (3.35) sem 205 miles by Miss LD and Std (3.35) sem 205 miles by Miss LD and Std (3.35) sem 205 miles by Miss LD and Std (3.35) sem 205 miles by Miss LD and Std (3.35) sem 205 miles by Miss Norys Durlied from Amnouth, Devon; Dingle Wood (5.15) sem 189 miles by S Griffiths from Nantgaredig, Dyfed,

1.55 CITY INDEX MARKET LEADER'S NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m 4f Penalty Value £3,891

BETTING: 8-13 Miroswaki, 7-2 Major Nova, 5-1 Delight, 6-1 Fontainerouge, 16-1 Tremble, 20-1 My Old Calna, 25-1 King's Affair, 50-1 others 1996: Samt heyne 5 11 7 A P McCoy 6-1 (D.1 Wilhams) 9 ran

FORM GUIDE

FORM GLIDE.

The step up in distance is a slight doubt, but MEROSWARG should be well suited by the fast ground judged from the way he handles Equittack and he looks to have an excellent chance of lookowing up has January Folkesiane win. He has twice found kingdom Of Shades too good there and at Lingfield), but he pulled 14 lengths clear of the third when besten half a length on the most recent occasion and there was plenty to like about his Chellenham run last month when 10th of 22 behind Indefence. Fortalinerouse and Delight have writing form in linsh bumpers and over hundles in France respectively but have disappointed from a limited number of runs in this country. Conditions will be very different today than when Manifeld in the looker a much further face.

lor Nova won at Lingfield (2m 7f, heavy) last month and this looks a much tougher race.

Worcester bumper winner My Old China will as least how a much tougher race.

2.30 FAIRVIEW NEW HOMES NOVICE CHASE (CLASS BBC3)

FORM GUIDE

3.05 DAILY TELEGRAPH NOVICE CHASE (HANDICAP) BBC1.

- 6 decised ETTRIC: 6-2 inchestion, 3-1 Garylough, 4-1 Captain Nacion, 9-2 Southempton, 7-1 Destiny Calls,

004/2 CALL ME CITIZEN (15) (M.L. Shone) R Curts 10 12 6

1995: Insh Stamp 5 12 8 M Dwyer 12-10 (F Murphy) 5 ran

ty Value £14,655

1995: Postage Scorno 8 10 13 M Dwyer 5-2 (F Murphy) 5 ran

ter burroper winner My Old China will at least have gorund conditions in her favour, ion: MIROSWAN

1P DELICHT (FR) (46) (BF) IG Middlebrook: K Baley 5 11.6 ...
00:-061 MAJOR NOVA (16) M/s C C List N Smith 7 11.6 ...
FD-2120 MIROSKYNI (USA) (22) (M/s A Naugiton) R Aleturs 6 11.6 ...
2111-P6 FONTAMEROUGE (13) (M/s Devil Y Toper) G Balong 6 11.0 ...

130: MY OLD CHINA (13) (Mrs Germale M Foster) Anthony Foster 7 10 9

PU DUCKLING (13) IC W Mitchell C Mitchell 6 10 9

4.10 Clifton Set

4.45 Proud Sun

rule which bars entries officially argument seems rather more cause they would probably he er field, the earlier start of the rated lower than 120 when the important than ensuring that the the sort of horses that wouldn't National and the fact that the weights are published in early-

That rating qualification denied a run in this year's race to eight horses, including the subsequent Eider Chase winner, Killeshin.

The idea hehind keeping lowly rated horses out of the race is to ensure that the sort of moderate horse that disfigured some previous runnings of the race and that were a dan-

Girl capitalised after Joint Ven-

ture lost several lengths when

But at Folkestone odds-on

swerving left at the start.

NB: Royal Silver (Luclow 2.15) Charles Barnett, defended the rating qualification. "The idea

race is a lively medium for bookmakers and punters. Aintree's clerk of the course,

of the ratings was to avoid no-

RICHARD EDMONDSON

NAP: Beldray Park

(Hamilton 3.30)

be suited to the course. I would rather have 27 good horses than 40 no-hopers in the race."

Bookmakers William Hill are also looking for changes at Aintree after reporting hetting-shop turnover on Grand National day was down by 2%, despite the recent 1% cut in bet-

ting duty.
We believe that part of the reason for the downturn is the continuing influence of the National Lottery," the firm's Ian Spearing said. "While the small-

ASCOT

2.30: CAPENWRAY was a poor

second to Trying Again in the mud at Wincanton two weeks ago, but Jeff King's seven-year-old shows his

true ability only on fast ground, which he should get today. The sev-

en-year-old can prove too good for Glenfinn Princess.

National and the fact that the BBC screened only three races tory factors.

"It was noticeable that petentially one of the best betting races of the day, the Cordon Bleu Handicap Hurdle, was relegated to the dead end of the meeting instead of receiving

prime-time coverage." The same firm have tried to claw back some of the money they had hoped to see at Aintree by opening betting on Monday's Irish Grand National.

3.05: Cantain Khediye would be the choice if a clear round could be guaranteed, but his jumping his often cost his supporters dearly. Destiny Calls faces a tough task against INCH-CAILLOCH whose provess over the suff Sandown fences last time gives him in a fine opportunity here.

who made ignominious departures at Aintree, are 8-1 and 10this year were other contribu- 1 chances respectively to gain compensation at Fairyhouse, but the favourite, at 3-1, is the Charlie Brooks-trained Suny Bay, who had been extremely impressive at Newbury the previous week. He, along with other British-trained acceptors in Full Of Oats and Tartan Tyrant,

will take part only if they are granted a soft surface. Final declarations for the race, which is to be shown live on Channel 4, are to be made on Friday. 3.35: Richard Dunwoody reported that STAR RAGE was uns that STAR RAGE was this the so-that slow early pace when the six-year-old was a losing favourite at Aintree on Saturday. If today's con-test is more strongly run he will be

very hard to beat, although the odds look sure to be ungenerous.

4.30 EAST KILBRIDE HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,500 added 1m 3f

155,500 added 1m 3f
1 583020 DON'T PORUST CURITS (270) G M Moore 4 9 10.J Fortune 6
2 00250 CUTTEROAT 800 (1971) (C) Mrs M Reveley 6 96 ... K Darley 2
3 22-0551 MANFILL (13) W Elsey 4 9 6 ... M Remedy 3
4 0000-1 ASTRIN. WESTS (8) L Lingo 5 9 5 (6th) ... M Remedy 3
5 3-22230 CAUDER RINE (23) (RF) J L 5ye 5 9 1 ... R Lappin 8
6 2436-4 CLASSIC LOYNE (123) R Hams 3 6 13 ... A Mackey 7
5 5000-2 STEADFANT BLITE (8) (7) J I O'Nel 5 7 10 ... P Reasey (6) 1
6 5005076 RAPID MOVER (357) (CD) D Notes 9 7 10 ... J Quien 5
6 6 declared
Admirrant 7s; 10th, True weights: Steadfast Elle 7s; 8th, Rapid Mover 6s; 12th, SETTING: 3-1 Minufal, 7-3 Astrial Weeley, 4-1 Steadfast Elte, 5-1 Calder Rine, Catiffrent Kid, 6-1 Dort Forget Curits, 10-1 others

£3.800 added 1m 4f

CAMBUSLANG HANDICAP (CLASS F)

\$3,800 accided 1.m 47

311405

BRIENTRITE (2022) (CD) Mrs M Review 4 9 10 ... K Durley 6
3134-35 CHARRUE BRITME (18) (D) R Hurrs 6 9 9 A Mackey 10

DO4-DO4 MR CHERONGE (33) CThornton 4 9 8 ... Down McKeover 4

D41060- EUROTAVIST (123) (CD) S Kentievel 7 9 1 ... I Persiste 7

064306 PAACE OF 6000 (S) (Lung 6 9 0 ... A Pagning 8

10-3066 BRILLISTON (18) (CD) I Herberton 7 6 13 ... K Fallon 11

310324 TROMNTOLIN ESTATE (7) M Jornson 38 12 ... J Wenner 2

343100- LORD ADVOCATE (190) (C) (D) D Nobri 8 8 8 ... J Quinn 6

551350- DOCTORTS REMEDY (200) (D) Mrs J Jorden 10 6 2

... So Humans (7) 3

van Calebration 6st 12th. BETTING: 3-1 Bank'n'hite, 4-1 Thoratoon Estate, 8-1 Pfellerist, 10-1 Eu-

LANARK SELLING STAKES (CLASS G)

05050-3 LLICKY BEA (85 M W Easterby 8 10.

4.00 LANARK SELLING STATE 65yds

Johnson prolongs Nicol's Open jinx

Squash

Peter Nicol fell foul of his British Open jinx again yesterday when he lost in the first round in Cardiff. The British national champion, who has failed to win a match in four attempts at the event, was beaten 15-13, 15-12, 3-15, 9-15, 15-13 in 96 minutes by Paul Johnson, the No 7 seed. Nicol was fancied to complete

open British titles hut Johnson had other ideas. The world No 27 won on the same court where Nicol had defeated the great Jansher Khan in 1994. Successive first-match defeats over the previous three years to Zarak Jahan, Craig Rowland and Julien Bonetat seemed to prey on Nicol's mind from the start. He lacked the incisive and positive approach which normally makes his rallying so forceful. From leading

the double of the closed and

came so loose and defensive that Johnson was able to force victory in three more hands. "This is my first win over Peter since he rose into the world top 10, although I used to heat him easily and often as

11-6 in the fifth game, Nicol be-

a junior. Perhaps that was in his mind today," Johnson said. Johnson got the benefit of a dubious decision at 5-3 in the fifth game, but that was balanced out two rallies later when a burst ball which should have been ruled a let was called as a point to Nicol. It was the replacement ball that helped

The new ball was livelier and allowed me to pick up rhythm and pace just as Peter seemed to tire," Johnson said. Johnson will now play Tony Hands, who defeated Ahmed

Johnson to victory, however.

Barada, the world junior champion from Egypt, 15-11 15-13, 15-9, in 54 minutes. In the women's champ-

ionship, Cassie Jackman took her revenge against Linda Charman, who had put her out of the National Championship. Jackman now faces Vicki Cardwell, the 40-year-old former British Open champion, who defeated Meeghan Bell.

In the same half of the draw, Fiona Geaves, the eighth seed, beat Janie Thacker to set up a match against Rebecca Macree, who defeated Donia Leeves.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

POTOGRAM
7.30 Unies stated
EUROPEAN CUP SEMI-FINALS FIRST LEG
Ajax y Penathinalicos (6.30)
Autorius y Narrius (6.30)
Autorius y Narrius (6.30)
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

ENOSLEIGH LEAGUE FIRST DIVISION

SWINDON Y BERRICO
GM VALUCHALL CONFERENCE
Bath Y Stough
SPALDING CUP SEIN-FINAL SECOND LEG
Macclesfield Y Southport
Kettering Y Bromagnove

Worthing.
UNIXED AD LEAGUE Premier Divinion: Hydre Und v Enley, First Division: Brazilord PA v Athenon LP; Legs v Great Hawood.

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE Pression Division: Newport AFC v Atherstone, Micliand Divisions

v Selisbury. LEAGUE OF WALES: Ton Pentre v Aberystwyth. P AND J HIBHLAND LEAGUE: Deveronment v

Losserrouth,
HERKWARD UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE
Premier Division: Rounds v Martes Bipdistra.
NORTH-HERN COUNTIES EAST LEASUE Premier
Division: Brigg v Arnold: Deneby v Matthy AnnHellern v Hatheld Man.

Divisions Brigg v Arnold Density v Medity INW. Helitam v Harheld Main.
FEDERATION BREWERTY NORTHERN LEABUE First Divisions Search Red Star v Weet Auchtend. LCI. Crop sean-finals Whitby v South Streids. Winstonkleab (Earl Leabue First Divisions Dentitor) v Tharmsamend.
PONTING LEABUE First Divisions Botton v Sheffield bid (7.D); Chlern v Barringham (7.D); Seated Divisions Bractical v Barraley (7.D); Earn-key v Rotherham (7.15); Gdmethy v Yor. (7.D); Lonacter v Baccipcio (7.D); Mensield v Huddersheld (7.D); Preston v Hall (7.D), Thair Divisions Larolin v Washafi (7.D); Ancholste v Sacrocrough (7.D); Strewsbury v Soundrione (7.D); Chesterfield v Wigen (7.D), Aventicon (3.D); Cheston V First Divisions Assensi v Luton (3.D); Charton v Chelses

Ayon Institution (3.0); Chefton v Chefses (7.0); Crystal Palice v Portamout (7.0); Ioswich v Bristol Rovers; Norwich v Southempton; Oxford Und v Wintbjedon; Visoloyd v Queen s Park

HEINGIGH WELSH LEAGUE First Division: Aber-dhey v Llanels (7.15); Neath v Aberavon (7.10). CLDB MATCH: Cumbran v Portypool (7.0).

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: London v Nernel (8.0); Shaffeid v Doncesser (8.0); Trames Valley v Derby (8.0).

Speedway
PROPER LAGUE: Long Eston v Bele Vue (7.30),
YORKSHURE TROPHY Second leg: Hull v Bradlord (7.30).

Football

SECOND DIVISION Swindon v Brighton

HYPERION'S

hopers running in the race be-

backers profited when Mick Fitzgerald won on Sorbiere. 3.35 CITY INDEX SPREAD BETTING HANDICAP HURDLE BEC1

ue £5,152 500/2-FP TAROUDANT (11) IG A Famoon; R Woodhouse 9 12 10. D-0PO20 DREAMS END (20) (D) IT G Proct P Bower 2 11 10 1-00602 MBM MIND (FR) (15) (60) U E Wilson) Mss I Studel 7 10 5.

520553 MOW'S IT GORN (15) (60) (BP) (Ms / M Mun W Mun 5 10 2.

C20031 WEEHERY (USA) (21) (D) (The DAVA Partnership) M Baractough 7 10 2.

STAR RAGE is being kept olimbst as busy over hurdles as he was on the Fax, this being his sight run in 40 days, but he has shown how well he holds his form and is fanded to supplement his win in Chettenham's County Hurdle. The stu-year-old goes off an 80 ingrer mark than at the Festival, but he holds breams End, High Mind and Mest Equal on that form and was beaten just two lengths in third of 17 to Stompin at Aircree on Saturday off today's mark. High Mind advertised the County form when finishing second to Sharkashisa et Ayr ned time, while Meat Equal, who unsested at Chethenham, can do better back off his correct mark. Pryling farefractor is a likely danger howing come back well from a break since December to score by 10 lengths from Chai-To (whitner since) in a Utilizetter novice hurdle recently. He gots well on a test surface and is fresher than most. This is much bugger than the Humangdon tedies' race that Weisheby won last time and also the Fortivell race in which Hew's It Golin was that is Sophie May. Selvez will appreciate undertoot conditions and may have banefited from his Feluminam run bekind Roi Du Nord.

4.10 ALPINE MEADOW HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS C) £7,000 added 3m Penalty Value £5,425

11203P RUMANNY PETE (LISA) (22) (Peran Associated) M Pge 5 12 3 D Brid 2P-PTFO GORNE AROURD (128) (The MEP Parprestrop K Besley 8 11 0 A Th 3314-P2 NEWTON POINT (28) (CD) (Miss C & May E Pegra) D Nicholson 7 10 12 R John 33-14-P2 NEWTON POINT (23) (CD) (Miss C & May E Pegra) D Nicholson 7 10 12 R John 33-14-P2 NEWTON POINT (23) (CD) (Miss C & May E Pegra) D Nicholson 7 10 12 R John 33-14-P2 NEWTON (CE) (CD) P Windowsch P Windowsch 7 10 8 S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread S Melar 5 10 5 N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread S Melar 5 10 5 N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread S Melar 5 10 5 N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread S Melar 5 10 5 N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread S Melar 5 10 5 N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread S Melar 5 10 5 N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread S Melar 5 10 0 N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (12) S P Tread (13) N S 23134 HARDING (13) N S 23134 HARDING

- 12 deciared - Minimum weight: 20st. True handicap weights: Steel Moss 9st 10th, Royal Piper 9st 9th, Metal Oiseau 9st 6th. Creater 9st 60.

BETTIMO: 7-2 Mewton Polet, 5-1 Ciffton Saf, 11-2 Storm Mortis, 6-1 Remansky Pete, 7-1 Harding, 8-1 Royal Piper, Stori Moss, 14-1 Going Arcanel, 16-1 others
1995: Algainsean 6 11 6 C Liewellyn 5-1 (C Marn)

FORM GUIDE.
HARDING has had to make much of his own rurning in two novice hurdles since wireing • NAMPONG has had to make much of his own running in two novice numbers since within at Newtury last month, which has left him there to be shot at, although it has to be said that he was in front a long way when winning, Handing put up a good performance to be second to Landed Gentry in a conditionals' handleap over two and a half miles here in February, when he terms from off the pace. This does not look as though it is going to take much winning and, with the counts sure to suit, he can make the return to handleaps a winning one. Romaway Peta, pulled up behind Great Easeby at Chementain, goes off the sparre mank as when their to interight, in a vendance shallown be never to the related to the confidence and rease the man danger. Newton Polast also poses a threat following his three-quarter-length second to Lead Vocalist at Sendown last month on his first run since November, Royal Piper and Realisa Maes, fifth and sight respectively, are held, Climba Set goes well on this ground and is 18th lower than when fifth to the smart Seelan Cash over course and distance in February. Storas North, in mid-division behind Unitered at Chefterham, scored over course and distance in January but is 9th higher naving besten Chop-

A 45 MAHONIA HUNTERS CHASE (CLASS H) £4,000 added 2m

004/2	CALL ME CHIZEN (15) (M L Shore) N CARE ID 12 0	
4-32PZ2	CAPENVRAY (13) i8 k Pepolati J hing 7 12 6	TA ART MAHONIA HERITERS CHASE (CLASS IN £4,000 added 2m)
5±UFSU	CHEAPPLICCI (8) (Mrs E H Heath) Mrs E Heath 6 126	4.45 MAHONIA HUNTERS CHASE (CLASS H) £4,000 added 2m 3f 110yds Penalty Value £2,879
FJ-2620	DESE MARSHALL (15) (10m Wader) Wade 6 11 8	
# F COO 2	DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPERTY AND SECURITION SECURITION SECURITIES AND SECURITION OF THE SECURITION OF T	1 12/308P- AMARI KING (\$36) (M Ward-Thomas) J Wall 12 12 8
THE PRINT	The second rate of a R W V forbook O Shangood B 12 B	2 4/111-RU MR GOLIGHTLY (20) [Mis B Cobden) Mrs S Cobden 9 128Mirs J Reed (7)
3/2-0103	FORDOW DOC 15 OF THE PROPERTY	3 F111-F4 PROUD SON (20) (Street Pile) 5 Pile 6 12 6
- BF -	GO BALLISTIC (20) IMS 8) LOCKED / USING 1 120 IMS	4 6/41/P. RAH WAN (USA) (547) (Mrs.) Headen-West) P Chamings 10 12 4
5-01357	BYTARA (22) (Alan C Eliot) J Edwards T 11.6	Gath. will also fred bet) here Lencel life Length in Training a service
	LINEAR POLL SD (200 (C. P.O. Mire) & Raday & 11. H	5 05-3510 TIPPING TIM (22) [7] DAS J MOLAD N THISTON-DUMS 11 12 4
F32U3F	LICRY DULDAY (30) 16 P PROPERTY SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SEE SE	6 643346 TRUST THE GYPSY (29) (D) (Airs 6 Wheman) J Dulosee 14 12 4
OPBF42	MARCHAMA GALE (8) IR L Scorge) FI K MALTINE O 11 C	7 343/3-P FOUR ROVERS (13) (Mrs A M Murray) Mrs L Recirron 11 12 0
	makes accorded to the State of Charles of Charles of 11 Comment of the State of Charles of Cha	8 PP3-43 PACO'S BOY (23) (R H York R York 11 12 0 Mr P York (7)
		9 4232-03 SOCIAL CLIMBER (S) (L.G. Kimber) 5 Garnote 12 12 0
	A CLERKE DOBLETS CAN INC. INC. MOLETIN MIS MICHAEL DES VILL S	10 SON-12F A WINDY CITIZEN (61 Date J A Thomson) Mrs C Hicks 7 11 13Mr R Hicks (7)
11-11-0	Piece	In What we want of the said th
	4-32P22 5-10F3U F4-P620 6-963-2 3/2-0103 4-28F46 5-01352 F32USF 0P8F42 42-6342 /1-63P2	0.042 CALL MILE CITIZEN, 193 N Perpolar J Futz S D 2 0.05 0.05

BE(TIMS: 9-4 Proof Sen, 3-1 Typing The, 6-1 Peor's Soy, 7-1 Mr Rollghily, 8-1 Ameri King, A Windy Ottome, 14-1 Rub Wan, 16-1 Trust The Gypsy, 20-1 others 1995: Synderbornugh Lad 9 12 3 Mr M Felton 13-8 (S Piley 10 ran - 14 coctared
BETTING: 7-2 Capermuray, 9-2 Indiana, 5-1 Giosfian Princeda, 6-1 Formore, 7-1 So Ballistic, 15-2 Lucky Dotter, 16-1 Who's Next, 12-1 Sedge Wartter, 14-1 Derring Boxt, Royel Segue, 18-1 Marrema Gale, 33-1 Cell Mc Citizen

FORM GUIDE

PROLID SUIN, a latter at Kerrytion on its reappearance, did not jump well at Chetterheim test time, so it was a good effort for him to finish fourth to Slegant Lord, besten just 13 lengths although no match for the first two. The eight-year-old made up into a smart human-chaser last season, whining his last four completed starts. Even over a trip short of his back she should prove too good for these fields. If Gollightly is another to have done well last season, whoring all three of his races, He has yet to complete this term but would be the likely main danger to Proud Sun if he does today it highing Tim's Doresster win from fellow versarial Space Fair and All Hestilmi was over today's ting and he has the ground in his favour. He should make the frame. Four Rivers disappointed on his Wincanton return, Ameri King tooks a recent run and Trust The Gypey is a 14-year-old now, so best of the others should be A Whody Citizens, successful at Leloester (2m 4f) lest month.

Selection: PROUD SUN FORM SUIDE FORM GUIDE

GO BALLISTIC is not one in whom to have total confidence, but he stands but on the form of his course and distance second to that of Tutilow and his start to Challenger Du Luc in the Cathcart at Cherenham. Mick Forgerald, who has twice ridden him here, will not be tree Cathcart at Cherenham. Mick Forgerald, who has twice ridden him here, will not be lacking in confidence and can get him home. Feation was taled-of third behind Golden Spinner on his chasing debut at Newbury last month, but he did win a novice hundle here Spinner on his chasing debut at Newbury last month, but he did win a novice hundle here Spinner on his change from now. Canny on laster ground in November and other Sherwood has his runners in good form now. Lincky Dollar cannot be ruled but even though he has failed to complete in three of his starts this term. Defae Marshall seems fastered by his good run against King Lucifer at starts this term. Defae Marshall seems fastered by his good run against King Lucifer at starts this term. Defae Marshall seems fastered by his good run against King Lucifer at starts this term. Defae Marshall seems fastered by his good run against King Lucifer at starts this term. Defae Marshall seems fastered by his good run against King Lucifer at starts this term. Defae Marshall seems fastered his good run against King Lucifer at starts this term. Defae Marshall seems fastered his good run against King the his change of the seems as the seems of the seems o

5.15 LILY TREE STANDARD NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 2m 11.0yds Penelty Value £2,229

ABOVE THE CLOUDS (A G Russell A Moore 5 12 6
BRAVE BLICK (Peer Luf) P Hobbs 5 12 6
DIASSIC JESTER (45) (Dasks Boodstack IP Pcl R Crampon 5 11 6
D CLASSIC JESTER (45) (Dasks Boodstack IP Pcl R Crampon 5 11 6
DEEL QUAY OATS STETCH C Neison (K Bailey 5 11 6
DEEL QUAY OATS STETCH C Neison (K Bailey 5 11 6
DEEL QUAY OATS STETCH C Neison (K Bailey 5 11 6
DEEL QUAY OATS STETCH C Neison (K Bailey 5 11 6
DO SINGE WOOD (45) (G Gardens Foul) Habbogs 5 11 6
NOT FOR TURNING (Charles Fingel) O Sherwood 5 11 8
STRONG PMLADEN (25) (Mrs Angels Boode) J Gallord 5 11 6
DO SINGET POOLEY (75) (Mrs Gardens O Sherwood 5 11 6
TURNISTEN (E S & WY Robers) O Williams 6 11 6
WADE ROAD (Lord Crabers) Mass H Wright 5 12 6
WADE ROAD (Lord Crabers) Mass H Wright 5 12 6
WADE ROAD (Lord Crabers) Mass H Wright 5 12 6
OU GYPSY BLUES (6) Mrs J W Williams) Mrs J Wifferson 6 11 6
DO GYPSY BLUES (6) Mrs J W Williams) Mrs J Wifferson 5 12 1 ABOVE THE CLOUDS (A G Russell A Moore 5 12 6 ______M Salebator (7) ALC: I Hager (7) U ANOTHER COCKPTT (25) (The Cock) Clearl P Hobbs 4 11 0... O SANDHILLE LAD (72) (Mis D Thornes) Mrs 0 Thornes 4 11 0 ... 6 WALDER'S DESTRY (18) (C W Mischell) C Mischell 4 12 0... _R Johnson (2)

BETTING: 7-1 Not For Turning, 8-1 Strong Paladin, Walter's Dream, 9-1 The Froms, Weds Road, 20-1 Deel Quey, Hocantell, 12-4 Tungston, Wer The Toes, 14-1 Brave Buck, 16-1 others. 1995: Domingon 5 12 8 Mr J Durian 6-5 (O Sherwood) 7 mn

Garrytough will have plenty of supporters in her bid by a four-timer, having created a very agood impression when working a valuable mane? Take at Utmoetter less time. Even from a good impression when working a valuable mane? Take at Utmoetter less time. Even from a good impression when working a valuable mane? Take at Utmoetter less time. Even from a good impression when his faced so far and the learn's preferred on his aument form. Jeff opportent than she has faced so far and the learn's preferred on his aument from. Jeff opportent than she has faced so far and the learn's preferred on his carryon in the Aride and showed King's even-yes/-old was better 121 learn's time. With his market neals, notably the moody that chourstanness conspired in his favour less time, with his market neals, notably the moody that chourstanness conspired in his favour less time, with his market neals, notably the moody that chourstanness conspired in his favour less time, with his market neals, notably the moody that chourstanness conspired in his favour less time, with his well worth the chance under a 6th Harvell Lad, performing below par, but inchealloch is well worth the chance under a 6th Harvell Lad, performing below par, but inchealloch was below his best then, that was sometenly below that best then, that was sometenly but until he shows more function his favour his favour. He has a deal thing of a peak for Capitain Khedire, who his revise failed to complete since. He has a deal thing of a peak for Capitain Khedire, who his feroes, he remains a risty proposition. Southerney of abidity but until he shows more function in his feroes, he remains a risty proposition. Southerney of abidity but until he shows more function his feroes, he remains a risty proposition. Southerney of abidity but until he shows more function his feroes, he remains a risty proposition. Southerney of abidity but until he shows more function his feroes, he remains a risty proposition. Southerney of abidity but until he shows more function has true sorted FORM GUIDE Strong Paladia looks likely to improve on g Sandown fifth to Marching Marquis and is the pick of those to have run. However, the chances are that there is a decent newcomer in the field and WIN THE TOSB, an idiot's Delight tour-year-old with Richard Johnson booked, attracts. Other Sharwood won the race last year and his Not For Turning is to be feared, are others to note. Selection: WIN THE TOSS

HAMILTON

2.25 Break The Rules 2.55 Face It 3.30 Beldray Park 4.00 Dragonjoy 4.30 Manful 5.00 Philmist

GOING: Good to Soft.

STALLS: All maces stands' side except 1 m & 1mif (inside rail).

DRAW ADVANTAGE: High best up to 1 m if 36yds.

Right-hand undulating course with pest-shaped loop.

Course is N of town on B7071. Handlinn West station (service from Observer) 1 m. ADMDSSION: Clash S12; Grandstand and Paddock S7 (54 for OAPA, disabled & students, 510 for couples); accompanied under-10s free all enclosures. CAR PARK: Free.

BLINEERED PIRST TIME: Centel Bosselo (2.25), Bark'n'bite visored, 5.00). WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN DAYS: [2.45] won at Edinburgh.

on Monday.

LONG-DISTANCE RUNNERS: Face it (2.55) has been sent 393 miles by W G M Turner from Corton Denham, Somerset; Epanlette (2.55) & Claerano (4.00) sent 370 miles by M Channon from Upper Lambourn, Berkshire.

2.25 SOUTH LANARKSHIRE CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS F) £3,450 added 1m 1f 36yds (CLASS F) £3,450 added 1m 1f 36yds

1 Q42310: BREAK THE RILES (207) Mrs M Reveley 4 100 LK Dadey 3

2 300-00 CASTEL ROSSELD (11) R Harns 6 10 0 ... A Mackey 6

3 50501: FASH (167) 3 Nemewell 4 9 13 ... J Stack (3) 4

2 255000: FASH (167) 3 Nemewell 4 9 13 ... J Stack (3) 6

4 255000: FASH (167) 5 Nemewell 4 9 13 ... V Statury 13

5 084-00 T4LSHIED THIN (15) (20) P Hastem 7 9 10 ... J Rothan 8

6 114005: FRED OF VISION (20) (C) (D) M Johnston 6 9 9 ... V Statury 13

8 001070: JASHROW (2001) 0 Nota 5 9 6 ... J Camori 12

9 Q400550: TO PROVE A POINT (205) J J O'Nell 4 9 5 ... S D Williams 1

10 046413 - PNENT ROSS (201) P Mortolth 6 8 13 ... P Feases (5) 10

10 046413 - PNENT ROSS (201) P Mortolth 6 8 13 ... Dearen Modist (3) 11

2 0-0 ALL IN GOOD THE (15) C Thompon 3 6 8 ... Dean Modist (3) 11

2 0-0 ALL IN GOOD THE (15) C Thompon 3 6 8 ... Dean Modist (3) 11

2 0-0 ALL IN GOOD THE (15) C Thompon 3 6 8 ... Dean Modist (3) 11

2 0-0 ALL IN GOOD THE (15) C Thompon 3 6 8 ... Dean Modist (3) 11

2 0-0 ALL IN GOOD THE (15) C Thompon 3 6 8 ... Dean Modist (3) 11

2 0-0 ALL IN GOOD THE (15) C Thompon 3 6 8 ... Dean Modist (3) 11

2 0-0 ALL IN GOOD THE (15) C Thompon 3 6 8 ... Dean Modist (3) 11

2 0-0 ALL IN GOOD THE (15) C Thompon 3 6 8 ... Dean Modist (3) 11

2 0-0 ALL IN GOOD THE (15) C Thompon 3 6 8 ... Dean Modist (3) 11

3 460000 BROGANS BRUSH (153) J Halconne 3 8 1 ... L Chemick 2 ... 13 decision 4 ... BETTINES 8-1 Talacted Thompon 5 ... TO Prove A Point, 16-1 others

RUTHERGLEN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES 2.55 RUTHERGLEN AUCTION 11 (CLASS E) £4,200 added 2YO fillies 5f 6 FACE IT (S) WG M Tumer 6 12 ... 5 FACE IT (9) WG M Turner 6 12 Topration 2
3 MELL END SIRE, M W Except 2 11 Date differen 4
4 NORTHERN SAL J Berry 6 11 Derron Modati (3) 5
5 TAZESKE O Northern 6 11 Derron Modati (3) 5
- 5 declared BETTON: 11-8 Episoletto, 2-1 Northern Sel, 5-1 Mill End Girl, 11-2 Fecce R, 8-1 Tayshari

3.30 HAMILTON HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,800 added 3YO 6F

2.15 Faustino 2.45 LAKE OF LOUGHREA (nap) 3.20 Conti D'Estraval 3.50 Nodforms Inferno 4,20 Criminal Record 4.55 Oaklands Word 5.25

GOING: Good to Firm.

Right-hand course. Chase course has sharper bends than hur-The Course is NW of town off AAP. Ludiov railway station (Here-ford - Shrewsbury line) 2m. ADMISSION: Club 514 (accompa-nied under-16s free); Tattersalis 59; Course 55. CAR PARK; Free.

HYPERION

WINNERS IN THE LAST SEVEN HAYS: None. LONG-DISTANCE BUNNERS; Lambon (4.20) has been sent 167 miles by J Pearce from Newmarket, Saffolk; Star Of David (2.46) sent 167 miles by Miss A Embiricus from Newmarket, Saffolk.

2.15 BURWARTON NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m

15 UTBLES BELLE S Stewood 4 10 7 Source (5)

15 declared Seller S Stewood 4 10 7 Source (5)

15 declared Seller Se

245 SHROPSHIRE STAR NOVICE CHASE (CLASS E) £5,000 added 2m | 1-12123 | GOLDEN MADDIMED (DIS) (C BS) Florten 10 11 10 | Lodder 213725 | CARS OF LOUGRIPE (C23) (C K Businy B 12 10 B Bradley 3 26-1541 | MERCHS DREAM (23) O Shewood 7 12 10 B Powell 4 10-3FPP | BARTON SANTA (15) S Brookfrav 7 12 3 S Enrough 5 505275 | SHEENALD MOON (146) P Rodord 9 12 3 S Enrough 6 FPPPS OLLIMER DUCKETT (14) Mrs J Schoopen 7 11 3 ... Mr J Junes 68-10FO | PRINCETHORPE (28) 6 Carmodp 9 11 3 Gany Lyons 6 13305F | STAR OF DAVID (29) Mea A Enrough 6 11 3 R Guest 6 declared -

- 6 declared -BETTING: 7-4 Merins Dreson, 2-1 Golden Hadjambo, 4-1 Lake Of Loughree, 12-1 Officer Duckett, 14-1 Essentid Mood, 16-1 others

3.20 BUNDY HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D)

3411-4P FONTYNYSWEN (193) D Bustel 8 11 10 ... F13122 LARRY'S LORD (18) (D (F) P Nictolle 7 12 10... Bary Lords (7) 1-67251 BOSTON ROWER (19) (C) (D) O Breman 12 12 10... M. Brancisco 3 1-67261 BOSTON ROWER (19) (2) (0) O Berryan 12 12 10.1M Browsen
4 316751 CONTI DESTRUMPAL (3) (0) O Berryan 12 12 10.1M Browsen
5 PF-P530 MAN OF MYSTERY (137) (0) P Hybbs 10 10 12 __ C Meande
B U316745- LE BUCHERION (487) Mas IN Yingt 10 10 0 ____ G F Ryan (5)
7 464-21 NATIES JONER (264) O O'Neil 10 10 0 ____ G F Ryan (5)
— 7 dechand —
Minimum weight 10st True hitspire(g) Le Bucheron, Kafe's Avier 9st 13b.
BETUNEC 2-1 Boston Rower, 5-2 Larry's Land, 7-2 Cond D'Echnewil, 7-1 PosTypygowen, 10-1 Man O' Mystery, 16-1 Katie's Aslary, 20-1 Le Bucheron

	50	BUNDY CONDITIONALS NOVICE HT
		HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,500 2m 5f 110
1	FP6	TRISQUARE (30) K Balley 5 11 10
2	0/D-P51P	BELMORE CLOUD (11) M Pipe 7 128
3	13-6000	FRENCH EUCK (32) N Twiston-Daves 6 12 7 M Reighton
4		PERSONNELS (15) Capt J Wison 6 11 6 D P
5		WIZZO (46) 6 Pating 5 11 6 A Lay
6	5PPF	RENE DE LA CHASSE (LA) O Nicholson 4 11 5 . It Masse
7	U5000-0	KALISKO (34) H Oliver 6 11 4
6	05522	BRIGHT NOVEMBER (18) (BF) Mis H Partot 511 2 .5 C
9		NODFORMS INTERNO (53) P Hobbs 7 12 1 @ Torme
10	D-004	BEIASSIC LINY (28) J M Bradley 6 10 7Guy I
12	OPO	TENI QUEST (28) 8 Cambridge 9 10 6 7 Descri
12	0000	SOUND PORECAST (LES Mrs 5 Johnson 8 10 D W Greater
13	3P03P0	DRAGONAST (19) F Jordan 6 100
14	6PP	MENTURE MELODY (32) P Ruchers 6 10 0
Mic	imum weig	he: 10st. True handicap weights: Sound Forecest 9st 8th,

membra megat, 1001. Hot received regists source received an only meg-membra est 20, Miniture Melody Set 130. BETTING 7-2 Triaquam, 4-1 Betmone Cloud, 6-1 Bright Movember, 7-1 Reine De La Chasse, 8-1 Personiema, 10-1 Notiforms Inform, 12-1 others

4.20 SHROPSHIRE STAR SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,800 2m | T Describbe (3) | Title (6 12 | Title (6 12 | S | S | Melyloid (10) | Title (6 12 | S | S | Melyloid (10) | Title (10) |

13 050-P60 WARSELS MELLION (23) T Morron 10 10 12 ... O Hogen (3) 14 30-0005 CREMENAL RECORD (242) (0) P Bendley 6 10 11... IN Knammen 15 P20014 LAMESON (15) (0) J Peace 9 10 11 ... J McLanghin 16 047304 WARDADA (105) O Burnets 5 10 11 ... J McLanghin 17 0-01231 MRITANNILI (25) R Baler 6 10 10 ... J Romen 18 250543 GEORGE LAVE (12) F Jordan 8 10 9 ... J Loddon 19 P000 PERSTY 9055 (24) N WARDAD BARES 4 10 6 ... C Lawellyn 20 30F040 LORGHAUD (15) (0) O Cency 5 10 4 ... W McFarland

4.55 CHASE MEREDITH MEMORIAL HUNTER CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 added 3m CHASE (CLASS H) £2,500 800000 SITI

\$P42.25 CARRECOMMES QQ QF L BOWLS 11 12 9 June D June (7)
143.520 BROCKENSHIN CAI (CD) \$1 Smith 13 12 5 July T Byrne (5)
PD0001 OMLANDS WORD (13) E Rindes 7 12 5 July R Busins (7)
55385 BUSTY BROCK (7) (0) Mrs 5 Johns 9 12 5 July R Busins (7)
0PSPPU KAUSANA (14) M HB 8 12 0 July R R Busins (7)
6 WASICHET (AD (25) Mrs A Proc 612 0 July R Busins (7)
6 WASICHET (AD (25) Mrs A Proc 612 0 July 1 Sherlock (7)
7 WASICHET (AD (25) Mrs A Proc 612 0 July 1 Sherlock (7)
6 Gecland
ESTIMA: 7-4 Outdands Word, 7-2 Knocksumbin, Carricioninos, 5-1 West

BETTWIC: 7-4 Coldands Word, 7-2 Knork Quary, 8-1 Ressly Beldge, 10-1 Watchit Lad, 25-1 others

5.25 BOYNE FAMILY MEMORIAL HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,500 2m 5f 110 yds 0-40055 DEBRENC BRADGE (11) (CD) Mrs S Johnson 6 10 7.46 Hogen (3)

~ 6 plactured ~ BETTING: 2-1 Zuitoon, 2-1 During Island, 4-1 Blue Rovers, 9-2 Jovial Ham, 6-1 Master Toby, 18-1 During Bridge

BADMINTON: English Nabonai Championahipa (Nonvich Sport Village). BODDING: Commonwealth Middleweight, Cham-pionahip: R McCasilen (Ammighem, holder) v P Busty (Wordstein) (Bethnel Green, London). SNDOWER: British Open (Plymout) Payllona). SQUASH: Leekes British Open (Cardiff).

Other sports

Basketball

MINDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTABLES RESULTS ASCOT 972 LUDLOW 973 HAMILTON 0891 261 970 Naplan chara, Anglan olim Saist, TLS pic, Scotten S FC 4 49

Selection: INCHCAILLOCH



FOLKESTONE 2.10: 1. CIRCUS COLOURS (A P McCoy) 7-2; 2. Monks Scham 9-4 fay; 3. Who Ass 1-1, 10 cm Sep. 1-9; 13 faults Roys son), Team £4.20; £1.10, £1.30, £3.30, DF: £8.60, CSF: £11.68, Trio: £9.70.

2,40: 1, BUCKLAND LAD (B Ferton) 4-1 fay, 2. Equity's During 10-1; 3. Pair Of Jacks 11-2, 12 ran. 7, 3, [D Gressel, Robertshidgs]. Total: £4.40; £1.80, £3.00, £1.70, DF. £21.10. CSF: £43.75. Tricast; £210.11. Trio:

3.10: 1. VICUSA GAP Hersey 7-1: 2. To Mine Captain 14-1; 3. Reve En Rose 8-1. 11 ran. 3-1 for Ask The Governor (6th). 42. STIT-TAIL (R Alner, Blandford Forum). Tobe: £7.00; £1.60, £7.70, £3.10. DF: £38.60. OSF: £92.37. Tobast: £744.27, Too: £159.20. 3.40: 1. ROSGEL O Byrn; 20. 1: 2. Mis-tainli 8-1; 3. Hawthome Glen 5-2, 6 mar. 9-4 far Simply (6th), 74, 5. (Mrs M Jones, Lambour), 76th: 52-10: 55-50, £1-50. DF: £27-10. CSF: £133.14.

4.10: 1, SORBERE (MA Fingersch 8-13 tar; 2, Rocco 3-1; 3, Am Bowie 11-1, 6 rm. 1½, dist. (N Henderson, Lambourn). Tote: 61.50: £1.40, £1.50. DF: £3.10. CSF: £2.50.

4.40; 1. SR DANTE (D 0'Sullward 5-1; 2. Whee King 3-1 g fav; 3. Royal Ruder 6-1. 7 ran. 3-1 g fav Feding Crop (Sch). 4. 1%. (R Rowe, Stortington). Total 55.60; £2.30, £2.90. OF: £10.30. (SF: £21.50). Placepot: £1.313.30. Quadqot: £922.00. Place 6: £1,246.49. Place 5: £777.01. NOTTINGHAM

2.00: 1 ESPERTO (6 Bardwei) 7-1; 2. Belle's Boy 14-1; 3. Radmore Brandy 8-1.15 ran. 4-1 fev Eskimo (6ss. 34, 24/2. () Pears, Newmarkel). Tota: £8.20; £3.10, £2.60, £1.60. Dual Forecast: £81.90. Computer Streight Forecast: £91.90. Computer Streight Forecast: £98.45. Tricost: £756.22. Tho: £227.70. 2.30: 1. WEET EES GIRL (L. Dettor) 14-1; 2. Nervous Rest 4-1; 3. Mojova 16-1. 5

Watch The Fire.
3.30: 1. TYMEERA (T Spraice) 14-1; 2. See
3.30: 1. TYMEERA (T Spraice) 14-1; 2. See
3.30: 1. TYMEERA (T Spraice) 14-1; 2. See
3.0: 1. 2. Tymeer Nature 12-1; 4.
Sweet Nature 9.1. 22 ran. 7-2 fav Medicarma.
Siri-hd, 34., 18 Pailing, Cowbridge), Totac
17.80: 16.00, 16.20; 6.330, 16.200, 07:
1145.30. CSP. 1123.18. Yicast: £1,181.18.
Into: £1,547.40, Alex a stewards' inquiry, placross unablemed.

(P D Evans, Weishpool). Tota: £10.50; £3.50, £1.50. DF; £21.00, CSF; £59.53.

3,00: 1. SPLICING (M HE) 3-1; 2. Loose

Ago: 1. High BAROQUE (/ Red) 7-1; 2. Lanus 4-5 ter; 3. Heavy Island 7-1, 12 ren. 1, 24; (*) Chapple Heart, Manton). Tofas 88:90; 52:60, 51:10, 52:00. DP: \$4:00. CSF: 513.77. Trio: \$21:10. 4.30: 1 MAPLE BAY (Angela Gelimore) 4-1; 2. Bettleskip Bruce 3-1 fav; 3. Pine Essence 5-1. 13 ran. 1/2; 8. (A Barky, Tar-

RACING RESULTS portey). Totac £5.00; £2.80, £1.40, £1.40. DF: £5.30, CSF: £16.12. Tricest: £57.78. Trice

19.20.

19.00: 1. Still GAA (F Cochrane) 3-1 p.tav;

19.00: 1. Still GAA (F Cochrane) 3-1 p.tav;

10.00: 1. Sti ned forward to Ascot today.
Place 6: £170.62. Place 5: £31.58.

WOLVERHAMPTON 2.20: 1. SORDOS (M Henry) 2-1 jt tor; 2. Lia Fail 7-2; 3. Mogin 20-1. 7 ran. 2-1 jt tov Golden Tyke. 7, 142. (J Hills). Tote: E3.50; £1.20, £2.20. DF: £2.50. CSF:

2.50: 1. WAKING BEACH IS WITHOUTH 100-30; 2. YO KIT-B B-1; 3. Yimpy Girl 12-1. 7 rm., 15-8 for Buddle Wings, 6, 1. (6 L. Moore). Tube: £4.20; £2.20, £4.10. DF;

£7.40. CSF: £25.93. 3,20: 1 VICTIM OF LOVE (5 Sanders) 5 2 far, 2. Rowlandsons Church 11-2; 3, Expectes 14-1, 9 ran, 14-, 1, (R Charlton).

The E of Fig. £1.17, £2.90, DF, Fig. CSF, £16.30, Theast £149.95, Thee £36.10. 3.50: 1. IN THE MONEY (F Lynch) 3-1 fair,

2. Hill Farm Dancer 5-1; 3. Backview 7-2, 7 ran. 1/2, 1. (R Hollinshead), Tota: £3.60; £3.40, £2.90, DF: £5.80, CSF: £17.18, Mter a stawards' inquity and an objection, Back-view, who finished first, was placed third. 4.20: L LAWFUL FIND (F Lynch) 5-1: 2 Contravene evens fav. 3. Abstance Queen 13-2. 6 ran. 144, 5. (R Hollmshead). Tota: £8.20; £3.20. £1.10. DF: £3.60. CSF:

4.0.41.
4.50: 1. FOIST U Quird evens far; 2. Disco Boy 14-1; 3. Str Tasker 3-1. 7 ran. 5, 1½. 04 W Easterby). Toke: £2.10: £1.10, £7.70. DF: £14.30, CSF: £13.78.
Placeport £23.30. Quadport £5.10,

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of games Dynamo Moscow have been banned from playing at home after an incident last month when a referee was beaten unconscious in the dressing-room after awarding Spartak Vladikavkaz a controversial penalty.

rap. 4-11 by Joint Venture (4th). 42, 342.



Greeks travel in hope of upset

Football

higgest upset of the European sea-son if they manage to derail Ajax's European Cup defence at the Poland. We know we are facing semi-final stage.

The Greeks go to Amsterdam for the first leg of the semi-final to take on Ajax, who are in prime form and hidding to extend a record t9-game unheaten run in the continent's premier competi-

in the semi-finals, going down 2.1 to the eventual winners. Not-

coach, Juan Ramon Rocha, was encouraged by his side's 3-0 victory Panathinaikos will pull off the over Legia Warsaw in Athens to the best team in the world but regardless of this, who knows, we may have a rendezvous with history and beat the odds," Rocha said.

Panathinaikos, who head the Greek First Division, come into the match well rested after their scheduled game against second-The Dutch league leaders have placed AEK Athens was called off only lost once in six appearances at the weekend to allow them to prepare for their European match. tn contrast, Ajax slipped to their third league defeat since mid-

Panathinaikos's Argentinian January, going down 2-0 at Roda ach. Juan Ramon Rocha, was en- JC Kerkrade on Saturday, although virtually their entire firstteam squad was out either injured

or being rested.

Most of the absentees will be back on Wednesday, but the Ajax coach, Louis van Gaal, is certainly not taking the Greek challenge lightly in the last major fixture at Amsterdam's Olympic Stadium before it is demolished and Ajax move to a new arena next season. He expects Panathinaikos to pack

midfield and play with one striker. In the other semi-final, Nantes face as daunting a task as Panathinaikos as they take on Juventus.

European competition this season will rub off on them.

In the quarter-final of the Cup-Winners' Cup, Paris St Germain knocked out Parma while, in the Uefa Cup, Bordeaux, who qualified through the Intertoto Cup, as-tonishingly overturned a 2-0 first-leg deficit to defeat Milan.

Nantes themselves staged a su-perb recovery to eliminate Spartak with two second-half goals in Moscow to earn their semi-final

Alessandro Del Piero has warned his Juventus team-mates to underestimate the French challenge at their peril. "If Nantes have Nantes will be hoping that the sur-prising success of French cluh in got this far, then they are one of the four best sides in Europe," he

said. "Perhaps they don't have any big stars, but their strength is their

Both teams have been badly hit

organisation and will to win."

by injuries and suspensions, Juventus will be without five players and Nantes three.

Moreno Torricelli, the former

Nantes player Didier Deschamps and Antonio Conte are suspended for the Italians, while Alessio Tacchinardi and Fabrizio Ravanelli are injured.

Nantes, who have scored in the away leg of every European match they have played in the last 10 years, are without winger Revnald Pedros, who is suspended and the injured midfielders Japhet N'Doram and Claude Makalele.

Drug all-clear for Sharpe and Summerbee

The Football Association vesterday cleared the Manchester-based players Lee Sharpe and Nicky Summerbee of involvement with drugs, while reaffirming their determination to drive offenders out

of football. "Manchester United and Manchester City have exonerated their players Lee Sharpe and Nicky Summerbee of any involvement with drug abuse," the FA said in a statement from Lancaster Gate. "The FA have established that both clubs acted swiftly following newspaper allegations by making their own inquiries into the matter. The players were reminded of their responsibilities and both gave firm assurances that they do

not take prohibited substances." Manchester United are appar-ently interested in Panathinakos right winger, George Donis. Reports from Athens suggest United have been tracking the player and that a club scout watched him in their European Cup quarter-fi-of the season. "It was one of the nal against Legia Warsaw, which the Greeks won 3-0. Donis will play for Panathinaikos against the European champions, Ajax, in Am-

sterdam tonight. Officials of the Greek club say United, who have not commented on the reports, are willing to offer £2.5m for the 27-year-old. who has 20 caps and is recognised as the fastest winger in Greek football.

Laudrup will leave Spain at end of season

Michael Laudrup said yesterday that he will leave Spain when his contract with Real Madrid expires at the end of this season. The 31year-old Danish midfielder said he was considering playing in the United States or Japan next season.

Laudrup, who will have spent seven years in Spain, joined Real Madrid from Barcelona last season and helped his new club to the championship. However, they have struggled in the league this season and were knocked out of the European Cup by Juventus.

Laudrup said: "I would have liked to retire on winning a European Cup, but I'm not leaving Spain disappointed. I have had many more successes than failures. I would like to have retired at the top like Frank Rijkaard, hut it was not to be and I'll go fighting to get the team into the Uefa Cup. Real

Madrid will be my last hig team." Laudrup said the time had come to slacken the pace and spend more time with his family, hut he did not rule out playing for Denmark again, "It depends what the new coach has in mind, but anyway it would only he three or four games a year. We'll see," he said.

THE TICKET DEBATE It's too easy to say they were

too expensive



Graham Kelly, the chief executive of the Football Association, defends seat pricing policy for the FA Cup semi-finals

special. Ask players, ask managers; yes and ask the fans too. Neither the winners nor the losers, nor supporters will forget the dramas that unfolded so briltiantly at Old Trafford and Villa Park. Of course it was disappointing there

weren't capacity crowds to watch two such great spectacles. And nobody wants to know why more urgently than those of us at The Football Association.

But frankly it's too easy to say tickets were too expensive, and that's the end of it. If this was the case, why did the problem not arise last year - or the year before - when tickets were priced at the same levels?

Tickets are going to cost more for "special" games. But it is ludicrous to suggest that anyone here wants to rip off fans. We aren't greedy. We do care. The *Independent*'s reference vesterday to fans as "cash cows being milked at the gate" suggests that all the recent talk of mad cow disease has

reached previously immune parts of the journalistic profession. Much of the problem on Sunday stemmed from the relatively small number of cheaper seats made available at Old Trafford where virtually every seat

is top quality. Also, in the case of Aston Villa supporters, it was the second weekend in succession that they'd been asked to travel 100 miles and more to a big Cup tie. The previous Sunday they'd won the Coca-

Cola Cup in splendid style at Wembley. Taking two well-supported clubs to a neutral ground does have its problems. Safety and security and segregation of rival fans, all are priorities for obvious reasons. Our new stadiums - like Old Trafford - are magnificent. But an even distribution of every category of tickets is well nigh impossible. Why go to neu-tral grounds for semi-finals then? Ah, the to just about everyone in football as the Independent is never slow to remind us. Remember the furore when we've taken semi-finals to Wemhley in the past

Of course we sympathise with fans like those of Astnn Villa after their recent excursions. But the frank truth is that there will be a price for the success of their team. More games will mean more

What we will always seek is consistency and fairness. No one denies we would have liked higger crowds for England's games at Wemhley over the past two years. We have run incentive schemes. and sought to attract schoolchildren in addition to expanding our Family En-

closure arrangements. We are wary of raising expectations by admission policies for one game that are scrapped for the next one on purely commercial grounds.

But reality is that England have been playing friendlies hecause we haven't needed to qualify for Euro 96. Friendlies don't attract the crowds that qualifying matches for World Cup and European Championships inevitably do. Ask Portugal who lured just 3,000 to Lisbon last week.

Ask Belgium whose audience was 16,000 on the same night. Ask Germany – 25,000 in Munich. Ask France who face 24 months of friendlies leading up to the

World Cup finals. What we have sought are fair prices, and then stuck to them. If there are lessons to be learned from the empty seats of last weekend, be certain we'll learn from them.

References in your coverage to the professional and non-professional game. and their representation on the Match and Grounds Committee here are at the very best superfluous. Be sure of one thing more - we care

about the fans because overwhelming-

traditions of the FA Cup are important ly we and our families are fans.

Empty seats are price of greed



David Aaronovitch argues that the spiv mentality is depriving the game of passion and spectacle and threatening its future

Britain seemed to he run either by the jobsworths or the spivs. Typified by the conductor who would not let your Mum tract the FA: using a small proportion on the bus with a pram; the jobsworths were dedicated to the husiness of the Circumiocution Office in Charles Dickens' Little Dorrit, of how not get things done. Their relatives, the spivs, were children of austerity, amoral maximisers of profit from the sale of scarce resources.

For all the change of the past three decades there remain, here and there, little pockets of jobsworths - stony, illtempered and obdurate men of the Fifties, convinced of their own rectitude, their sights set firmly on the past. And the largest extant collection of jobsworths in Britain today are to be found running British sport. Unremittingly male, old and conservative they meet each other in clubs, committees and board-rooms, reinforcing their archaic values over and over again.

But with the coming of big money into sport they seem to have imbibed some-thing of the spiv too, trading their past public (if mean) spiritedness for the quick buck. How else can one possibly explain the fat-headedness of the way in which the Football Association has responded to criticism of its ticketing policy at Cup matches and international games?

The facts are pretty simple. Thousands of tickets for the FA Cup semi-finals in Birmingham and Manchester last Sunday went unsold. Fans told the clubs involved that they could not afford the sums required. Most of the Manchester tickets had been priced at £38 a throw. and for Liverpool supporters in particular this was too much: 6,600 of the tickets allocated to Anfield went unsold. TV viewers like me were incredulous that the impossible had been accomplished, and that some method had actually been found to deter some of the most dedicated fans in the country. Had the FA not priced the tickets far too high?

Oh no. you don't understand, replied the FA. The prices were fine, it was the ticketing structure that was the problem. There were too many tickets costing £38 and not enough costing, say, £18. (Seriously, this is their argument). Further-

For some years after the war life in very good views, and thus had to be highly priced. So there you are.

of the revenue potentially lost from unsold tickets, the FA could construct obstacles (sheets on long poles, perhaps) all over Old Trafford, obstructing the view and justifying lower-priced tickets. Then more fans could afford to go - not because of lower prices, of course, hut because of a changed ticketing structure.

The real problem, of course, is slightly different. The FA thought that it could screw more money out of supporters than in fact it managed. In the balance between the desirability of filling grounds with vocal, happy supporters and maximising revenues they tilted too far to-wards the latter. Exactly the same mentality was on view in the way that tickets were priced for the England versus Bulgaria game last week. Fewer than 30,000 turned up, with cheaper children's seats situated only in the restricted-view area below the Royal Box.
I am a Spurs season ticket holder and

not exactly poor, but the £500 for the season is a substantial slice of my family's budget for luxuries. A few weeks ago the Tottenham chairman, Alan Sugar, volunteered that he was uneasy about the cost of seats at White Hart Lane. It gave him little pleasure, he said, that many ordinary working families were now priced out of regular football attendance. Sugar's admission was significant.

After all, White Hart Lane is practically full at most home matches and three planeloads of well-heeled-Lilywhites paid £199 each for an all-in package at Old Trafford just a week before the semis, so why should he worry?

Because he is shrewd, that's why. And unlike the FA he recognises that foothall stands at the parting of the ways: that an absolutely essential element in making English football big box-office is the atmosphere of passion and excitement that loyal, often low-income and young fans bring to the matches. They are the ones that yell, sing, weep and laugh, putting sedate oldies like me to shame. Lose them, oh jobsworths, and ously. this is their argument). Furthermore too many seats at Old Trafford had Wise up.

What no you think about the FA's policies on ticket prices? What are your views on football licket prices generally? We will print a selection of readers letters on the issue. (Rey should be addressed to obtain the independent of Canada Square, Canada Square

Merrington calls for commitment

critical phase of five Premiership the away before the 10-day break matches in 15 days.

The Saints manager was critical of his side's second-half perfor-Park Rangers on Saturday, but knows that victory against a despondent Leeds side could yet prove the catalyst to Southampton remaining in the top division.

"The OPR defeat only makes it will have the same effect on the players," said Merrington, whose side could move five points clear of the relegation zone.

Another defeat (they have won only once away from home in the

caused by England's international against Croatia at Wemhley.

"We were second best in all demance in the 3-0 defeat at Queen's partments on Saturday but the players know how I feel and I hope they have had a good hard look at themselves and asked if they could have done more," Merrington said. "I know I will be working even harder now. It makes me dig deep me more determined; I only hope as a professional and I need the same response from the team." Matthew Le Tissier returns af-

ter suspension and Southampton could have the additional fillip of Richard Hall back in defence after a calf injury ruled him out for League all season) would leave the last two games. There may also morale desperately low going into be a recall for Mark Walters.

Dave Merrington has demanded Easter, with games against Black- Merrington added: "Every game play with a freshness and im-that Southampton demonstrate an hurn Rovers and Aston Villa. Now will have an effect on the overinstinct for survival at Elland Southampton then play Manches-Road tonight when they launch a ter United at home and Newcas-ter United at home and Newcas-thing out of it." were signs against Middlesbrough that things were on the mend," the thing out of it."

John Lukic, the Leeds United goalkeeper, has recovered from the concussion which saw him substituted at half-time in the home defeat against Middleshrough, a result which left the Yorkshire club with four points from a possible 24 - one fewer than Southampton. Tony Yeboah and Tomas Brolin remain doubtful with a knee injury and a virus, respec-tively, while Tony Dorigo is unlikely to be risked after a month on the sidelines with hamstring trouble.

Nigel Worthington is unlikely to to be selected with a similar problem suffered playing for Northern treland last week, so Lucas Radebe stands by.

Io Bonfrere, the Nigeria manager, has walked out on his job and returned to his native Netherlands. secretary, Sani Toro, said Bonfrere had left without warning, merely leaving a letter complaining of "inin his job". Bonfrere said he would not return to Nigeria until there was a positive response from the fed-

son, said.

eration to his complaints.

Carlos Alberto Torres last August, had disagreed with Nigeria's withdrawal from the African Nations' Cup in South Africa on security

"We need to relax a hit more, grounds earlier this year.

Leeds manager, Howard Wilkin-

The Nigerian Football Federation decent treatment and interference The manager, who replaced

Cadete takes Parkhead by storm

Celtic fans were still celebrating the hest supporters in the world yesterday after witnessing the debut of Jorge Cadete, as remarkable an arrival into Scottish football as had ever been seen before.

The Portuguese international had had to wait five weeks to sign for Celtic after a protracted trans-fer from Sporting Lisbon. And he had not played any senior foothall since scoring for Portugal against the Republic of Ireland on 17 November, because of a dispute with his farmer club.

Despite the enforced inactivity. it took Cadete less than three minutes to announce his arrival, coming on as a substitute and scoring the final goal in a 5-0 victory over Aberdeen at Parkhead on Tuesday

Manchester United yesterday re-

vealed they have already taken ac-

tion on supporters who appeared on the Football Association's Cup

final hlacklist. No fewer than 13

names connected with United ap-

peared on the 36-strong list issued

by the FA on Monday, as stiffest-

ever penalties were handed down

on those who sold tickets for last

season's FA Cup final at a profit.

tary, said: "We were made aware

of these people immediately after

the final and took action to with-

draw whatever facilities they had

with United. Anyone who was a

season ticket or league match tick-

et holder had this withdrawn and

those who were in our membership

scheme had their membership

tually impossible for them to con-

tinue watching United games."

Ken Merrett, the United secre-

after the reception I received hefore kick-off," Cadete said. "It was an unbelievable debut for me, and to score so quickly after coming on for my new club was one of the highlights of my career. "I've been training on my own

since t7 November. Playing for those fans and to score nn my dehut has made up for those months of frustration and the weeks of waiting to join Celtic." Two goals apiece from Simon Donnelly and Scotland's top scor-

er. Pierre van Hooijdonk, meant Celtic were coasting by the time Cadete streaked through on to Peter Grant's pass before chipping over Michael Watt. The roar that tht.

greeted his goal temporarily took
Now I know the Celtic fans are

Radio Five Live off the air from

of Aberdeen his side's best display

Merrett claimed many of the

Everton to go to a third party, who sell-out.

hlacklisted supporters had ai-

lowed their tickets for the final with

had sold them on for a profit. The

FA's punishment was to ban the

guilty parties from receiving fur-

On the subject of tickets, Unit-

ed arc to send a report to the FA

outlining their observations on the

price structure laid down for tast

Sunday's two FA Cup semi-finals.

price to watch their Premiership

matches at Old Trafford, but a

large number of Liverpool and

Aston Villa fans were forced to

elled to Villa Park to see their

semi-final, were also faced with

the same kind of structure - and

cancelled. This would make it vir- team beat Chelsea in the other

ther tickets for up to 20 years.

around Parkhead.

Rangers, the leaders, with each side having five games to play.
"Of course the race isn't over,"
Van Hooijdonk said. "We have to keep going. The last game is nn 4 May - and that's when we will all know who is the champions of Scot-

land." Van Hooijdonk scored on his

debut for Celtic last season and he said: "It was a great way for Jorge to start, and that goal will mean so much to him and the fans."

Glasgow as a cacophony erupted best, hut we can play hetter than this," Burns said. "There is more Cadete's goal gave Celtic their higgest win of the season as they moved within five points of to come from this team and there is still a lung way they can go. The main thing was to see the happi-ness in the supporters and to hear the noise they were making."

Burns insisted that his team will

not he lulled into a false sense of security before the Scottish Cup semi-final against Rangers at Hampden on Sunday, for which Cadete will be ineligible. He said: of that. My players know exactly what they are going into on Sun-day, and we will be ready for it."

fitness of four players, Brian McLaughlin, Phil O'Donnell, John

"I don't think there is any danger Burns still has doubts about the

Although Celtic extended their domestic unbeaten run to 29 games, their manager, Tommy Burns declined to call the drubbing

the FA have said that they will at-

Collins and Morten Wieghorst. United ban fans on FA blacklist

> tempt to discover whether this resulted in both matches failing to Merrett said: "We will be sending an official report. It is not a complaint about the cost, but we will make several points to the FA, especially the lack of junior facilities for the semi-finals. We realise the difficulty of providing areas which can cater for juniors, but I think this is something that they

United regulars pay an £18 top- should perhaps consider in the future. All tickets were full price." Merrett admitted that he was surprised that neither semi-final venue was full, but added: "The part with £20 more at the week-end. United supporters, who travporters had the cost of a Wembley cup final the previous week could have played a part."

ed's Republic of Ireland full-back who has been ruled out for three matches with a hamstring problem, says he is close to playing again, putting himself in contention for this weekend's crucial Premiership games. This will come as good news for Alex Ferguson, the manager, who is preparing to go into the Easter programme, starting with the Manchester derby this Saturday, without Steve Bruce or Gary Pallister.

Suspensions will also now affect United's title challenge. Roy Keane misses Monday's home game against Coventry City after being booked in the game against Tottenham last weekend. Nicky Butt will be out for the last two home games against Leeds and Nottingham Forest following his yellow card in the semi-final

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jayasu jecord

the state of the s

ENESIES APRIC

and the

3.30

title to Mike Tyson.

"I'm still not sure what I'm

I'm spending time with my fam-

the future with his wife, Laura. but the final decision on whether he carries on will be his. She never comes into the boxing ring and I never go into the kitchen," he said "She is leaving it entirely up to me.

Jayasuriya hits records for six

Cricket

HUGH BATESON

Now we know it was no flash in the pan. Sanath Jayasuriya, the barnstorming showstealer of the World Cup, scored the fastest century in the history of one-day international cricket in a truly amazing game of crick-et against Pakistan in Singapore yesterday.

The left-hander took 48 balls to reach his century, broke two other records on the way and contributed to another landmark into the bargain. Just for the record, Sri Lanka, the recently crowned world champi-ons, beat Pakistan by 34 runs in the opening round of the Signar

Cup in Singapore.
Besides scoring the fastest century, overtaking Mohammed Azharuddin's previous best of 62 balls against New Zealand in 1989, Jayasuriya tossed in 11 sixes in his 134, for record No2 - the most in a oneday international innings, and for record No3 he took 29 runs off one Aamir Sohail over. the highest in a single over in an international limited-overs

Small wonder the Sri Lankans were able to reach 349 for 5 in their 50 overs.

Jayasuriya himself was not aware of any of his records as he broke them. "I played my normal game and got runs," he said. "I saw the ball early today and I believed in myself."

Rugby League

Paris St-Germain plan to un-leash an 18-and-a-half stone

Tongan prop forward on the

London Broncos tomorrow

night for a match that will take

one side to the top of the

Kava Utoikamana flew in to

Paris this week after spending

two years as a professional box-

er in America and has been im-

mediately added to the squad

Kava is not just a heavy-

weight, he is a huge weight," the

Baitieri, said of a player who

also impressed playing for Tonga in the World Nines last

for the match at The Valley.

DAVID HADFIELD

Super League.

The game followed a pattern over. Sri Lanka lost wickets regfamiliar to all World Cup watchers - total carnage from the first ball as Jayasuriya and Romesh Kaluwitharana indulged in a 15 runs per over feeding frenzy.

ll did not last long, but then it did not really have to. Kaluwitharana was out to the last ball of the third over, by which time he made made 24 from the 10 balls he faced and the score was already up to 45.

The tone had been set, although the Sri Lankans did slow down to a mere galtop as Jaya-suriya and Asankha Gurusinha put on 156 runs in 18 overs for the second wicket before Jayasuriya was out, driving, in the 21st over. Gurusinha departed almost transdictely for 29 in the same



Tongan weighs in for Paris

"He will certainly bring some power to our pack and I believe

he has got a tremendous future

in rugby league."
London will be without their

injured centre, Evan Cochrane,

with Tulson Tollett moving into

his place and Duncan McRae

coming in at stand-off for a match that will lift one club into

first place until the rest of the

The former Wigan and Great

programme on Good Friday.

Britain loose-forward, Phil

Clarke, has been allowed to

leave hospital in Sydney after

continuing his recovery from

breaking a bone in his neck at

Higgins, has banned his players

from drinking after Wednesday,

following an opening day defeat at Bramley.

ularly for the rest of the innings, but the show was still not quite over - Kumara Dharmasena, batting at No 8, contributed a career-best 51 to post what looked an invincible total. Pakistan's response was an in-

nings almost as exhilarating as Sri Lanka's - their 315 was built around 67 from Inzamam-ul-Haq and 68 from Salim Malik. It meant the whole match had yielded a total of 664 runs. Surprisingly enough, this too

Was a One-day record.
Singer Cup (Singapore): Sri Lanku 245-5 IS Jayasunya 134, K Dharmasena 51; Wagar Youns 4-62]. Pakistan 255 (Salim Maki 68, Inzaman-u-Hag 67). Sri Lanka wan

South Australia need to score 200 runs with eight wick-ets in hand on the last day of the final against Western Australia in Adelaide if they want to se-cure the Sheffield Shield in winning style. After leading the regular season standings, South Australia went into the five-day final requiring only a draw to take the trophy, but they now have victory in their sights after being set 343 to win by Tom Moody. South Australia started confidently, moving quickly to 40 before losing first-innings-century maker Paul Nobes and Darren Webber. Greg Blewett (22no) and nightwatchman Jason Gillespie (4no) took them through to the close.

SMETHELD STREAD FIRMAL (Adelaide, Fourth day of five): Western Australia 5:20-9 dec (A Glichrist 189no, R Barer 83, T Moody 68, B Hogg 51) and 199-8 dec (T Moody 72). South Australia 347 (P Hobes 103, Brayshaw 87; B Juli

"I will not tolerate the atti-

tude I saw at Bramley," Higgins

said. "It was bitterly disap-

pointing for me and the fans and

the players have had the hard

match entertainment format

that was widely criticised after

its unveiling for the match

against Warrington on Sunday.

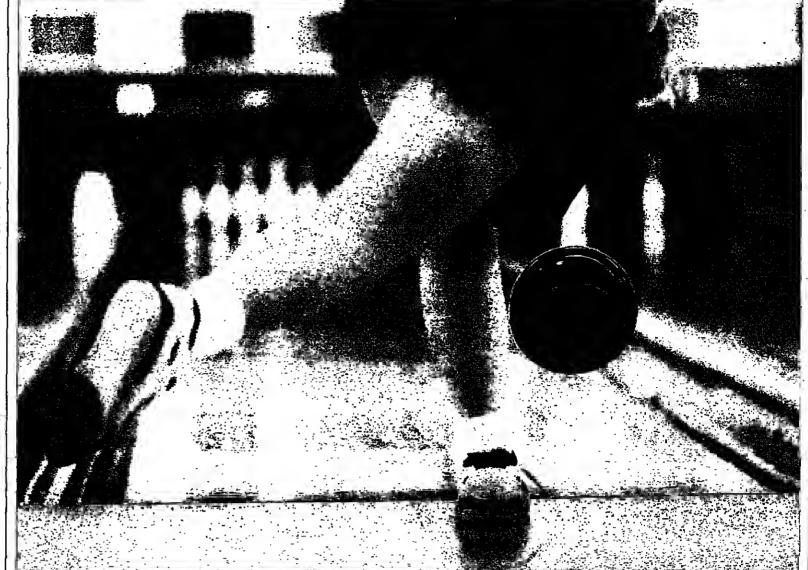
ham, also selling well, according

to the organisers.

be played under

Leeds have scrapped the pre-

word spelled out to them."



Mnre than just a game: Kerstin Sauer, 16, of Germany, on her way to the individual bronze medal yesterday

About six million Britons go tenpin bowling on a regular basis. It is one of the few sports at which we can still claim to be a world power, and the local Bowlarama is now almost as familiar an urban accessory as the parking meter. Yet if you asked 100 people to name a famous tenpin bowler the best that any of them could do would probably be Fred

Flintstone. This is a shame, because bowling has come a long way since Fred was throwing his uneven lump of granite. Among the contestants at the European Youth Championships yester-day, smooth, marbled urethane, with precision-drilled holes for tender young fingers was the material of choice, and most competitors had at least six balls to hand, to adjust to changes in

the lane conditions. In future, the club says, they will "To get to the top you need concentrate on a rugby league a perfect swing, balance and head position," John Williams, theme, without the music and Britain's leading coach, said.
"Also, you need to understand The cross-code clash between Wigan and Bath at Maine Road on 8 May is headhow lanes react, and they all ing for a 32,000 sell-out. That react differently. They will be affected by ball roll, the atmospheric conditions and the numleague rules, with the return unber and weight of balls thrown." der union rules at Twicken-

Nor is it advisable to simply

Young bowlers strike out in search of fame

Greg Wood on a

sport determined

to fashion a new

more family-oriented than

snooker or darts. "Children can

play from the age of four," Fran

Dee, president of the National

Association of Youth Bowling

Clubs, said, "and you'll often

find that their parents and grandparents are also bowlers.

If we still had the 1960s atmos-

phere, all these families

wouldn't keep coming back.

image for itself

aim straight at the front pin, since this tends to leave the nightmare 7-10 split of the far left and right corners, which is all but impossible to convert to a spare with the second ball. Instead, the bowlers impart spin which causes a last-second

swerve into the "pocket", the space between the first two rows of pins, and more often than not results in a strike. Few outside the bowling community, not least those in the sporting media, fully appreciate the degree of skill involved. The perception of being little more than a parlour game is one which snooker and, to a lesser extent, darts have managed to shake off, allowing entry to the lucrative world of sponsorship and television.

But it's a sport, not just a leisure activity - there's a lot of physical and mental skill." Dee is one of those foundation stones of so-called minority Bowling, though, for all the insports, an unpaid evangelist se enthusiasm and dedication has grown with each of the centres, still struggles beneath with the junior game. Do not, This is ironic, since it is far

however, refer to the lane as an alley, or she will appear ready to beat you about the head with one of the skittles, and then to do so again for calling it a skittle rather than a pin. Alleys are seedy, and skittles belong in

As a response to the public image of bowlers as middleaged and spreading, you could do no better than Sami Puiras from Finland, the winner of the Boys' Individual Championship by 15 pins - with 5,013 to the 4,998 of Sweden's Peter Westin. A frail, almost skeletally lean figure with John Lennon specs, Puiras's exterior hides a mental toughness of which any professional sportsman would be proud.

After five frames of the final game Puiras seemed to be faltering. Westin even edged into a slender lead, but then the occasionally, one of them will 26 years she has been involved Finn produced a devastating re- still bowl it straight down the sponse - seven consecutive gutter.

strikes, delivered in the face of enormous pressure. Westin's first ball in the ninth frame took out all but the No. 10 pin, but that solitary survivor proved to be the difference between

victory and defeat. Puiras's poise faltered just once during the day, in the first game. After Opening with 11 strikes he was just one more away from bowling's equivalent of the 147 break, a perfect 300point game. "My knees went wobbly and my hands were shaking "he said, "and I let the ball go a little too soon." He came up three pins short, on

In the girls' event, Gemma Burden from Weston-super-Mare, further demonstrated England's bowling strength, with both the boys and girls teams having already won gold medals, but on every lane the competitors bowled with exceptional skill and consistency.

Amid the constant smash and tumble of strikes and spares, however, there was one note of reassurance for anyone who has ever held a bowling ball. Occasionally, very, very

Orrell make late move for Botica

Rugby Union

Moseley appeared to have seen off rival clubs hoping to sign the New Zealand stand-off Franc Botica from Castleford rugby league club yesterday, but Orrell made a late, substantial offer. Botica has asked Orrell to put their offer in writing and he has said he will look at it.

Moseley had hoped to sign the 32-year-old on a two-year contract later this week. Sale, of the First Division, and Richmond, of the Third, were also after Botica. Moseley, who are seeking to raise money through a business consortium in order to attract top players and compete in the hard world of professional rugby union, were looking to Botica to match what the former All Black captain Wayne Shelford managed when he joined Second Division Northampton a few years ago and helped them into the top di-

Bruno is still

considering a

the weekend.

Jean-Michel Saive, the European champion, aims to mark his new No 1 world ranking by winning the English Open and the first stage of the Interna-tional Table Tennis Federation professional tour, starting at the Kettering Arena today.

The 27-year-old Belgian has been elevated to the world's top spot following his victory in the final of the Qatar Open at Dohar when he routed the oppo-sition, including the top Chinese

As the finals of the professional tour will be held in there in December, China has sent its most powerful team to Kettering, led by the world champion and top seed Qong Linghui. He will be supported by the world No 2, Wang Tao, and two other highly rated players, Ma Wenge and Lu Lin, while Saive is only seeded third this time.

Saive, who will defend his European title in Bratislava, Slovakja, this month is favourite for the Olympic men's singles title in Atlanta next July.

Saive targets English Open

Wight is the top British seed in the event at No 12 in the men's singles, while Berkshire's Matthew Syed, the British No 1, will play from the No 13 position. Despite being the new Eng-

land champion, Derbyshire's Alan Cooke is down at No 19 while in the women's ranks, the England No 1, Lisa Lomas, still struggling with shoulder in-juries, is seeded No 18 with the 1995 England champion, Andrea Holt, at No 20, and the national title-holder, Alison Brow,

The women's events at Kettering will almost certainly be dominated by players from the Par East, with Taiwan's Chen Jing seeded No 1 followed by the Canadian-based former Chinese player Geng Lijuan. The only European among the top women's seeds is Bettine Vreisekoop, of the Nether-

lands, who is listed at seven. Play begins today with qualifying rounds with the finals scheduled for Monday after-

SPORTING DIGEST Badminton

ENGLISH INTOMA. CHAMPIONSHIPS (Nowich) Mear's singles, first round: "D Hall (Essey bt I Gooden (Herbs) 15-2 25-3: A Cark (Nots) bt A Contell (Gos) 15-6 13-14; "A Bush (Wits) bt A Contell (Gos) 15-6 13-14; "A Bush (Wits) bt A Contell (Gos) 15-6 13-14; "A Bush (Wits) bt A Contell (Gos) 15-6 13-14; "A Bush (Wits) bt I Cophan (Intes) 15-4 15-2; "M Consable (Warwels) to K Windel (Surrey) wto: "P Knowles (Kert) bt N Holland (Bucks) 15-3 15-11: C Farton (Yorks) bt M Andrew (Cheshner) 15-2 15-3; N Waterman (Kert) bt I Sulhan (Gos) 17-15 15-9; "P Bush (Wits) bt M Edge (Lancs) 15-9 15-2; "P Bush (Wits) bt M Edge (Lancs) 15-9 15-2; "P Hinder (Whis) bt M Edge (Lancs) 15-10 15-15; "C Heughton (Lancs) nt P Barcham (Bucks) 15-11 5-12 Williams (Aven) bt R Pillinger (Middlessey) 15-10 11-15
18-16; "P Book (Gos) bt A Chowdhury (Lancs) 15-1 15-1; "R Dook (Gos) bt A Chowdhury (Lancs) 15-1 15-1; "S Pandys (Statis) bt A Mithotope (Herms) 15-1 15-2; Second round: "Hall bt Clark (15-1 15-1; "A Bush fr Fenion 15-6 15-8; "Knowles bt Hander 15-13 15-7, Warman's singles, first round: R Partaney (Glos) bt C Coombol-Herms) 11-6 11-1; E Hore (Hards) bt J Willman (Yorks) 11-6 12-5; A Goodeli (Middle) bt J Butters (Kert) 11-6 11-1; E Hore (Gos) 11-11-1; E Champin (Surrey) bt L Woodley (Berks) 11-5 11-2; K Brydon (Bucks) bt E Mides (Chestner) 7-11 11-7 11-2; T Hallam (Statis) bt N Murt (Herm) 11-3-1; T Hallam (Statis) bt N Murt (Herm) 11-3-4; T Hallam (Statis) ht N Murt (Herm) 11-3-4; T Hallam (S

Steffs, br. N. Munt (Hens) 11-3 4-11 11-7.

"denotes ametica"

LEADING WORLD GRAND PROX STANDINGS
Mart. 1 P.E. Hoyer-Larsen (Den) 900pts; 2 L.
Hwang-Lun (S Kor) 590; 2 R. Halk-Yuun (S Kor)
580; 4 R. Sadek (Malay) 550; S Yu Lizin (Chra) 535; 6 A. Heryanto (Indon) 420; 7 P. Sungwoo (S Korl 430; 8 A. Back Kusama (Indon) 420;
9 F. Permedi (Ind) 415; 10 I Suprimo (Indon)
405, Weathers: 1 Ye. Zhaoying (Chra) 640; 2 S. Susama (Indon) 775; 2 B. Soo-hyun (S Kor)
720; 4 C. Mertin (Den) 715; 5 Yeo Yan (Chra)
690; 8 Zhang Ning (Chra) 603; 7 Hen Jangme (Chra) 550; 8 K. Ji-hyun (S Kor) 470; 9
Wang Chen (Chra) 415; 10 L. Thomsen (Den)
395.

Baseball The veteran umpire John McSherry died after suffering a massive heart attack during the first Inning of Cincinnati's game against the Montreal Expos on

Sunday. McSherry, who was 51, had been a Major League umpire since 1971. The game was called off. NATIONAL LEASURE Atlanta 10 San Fre B, New York 7 St Louis 6, Chicago 5 San Diego 4 (in 10), Los Angeles 4 Houston 3, Pittsburgh 4 Holda 0, Toronto 9 Oaldand 6, Positiponeda Colorado y Philadelphia; Montreal y Cincinnati. AMERICAN LEAGUE: Minnesona B Detroit 6

a downmarket image.

Cricket

Andrew Caddick has set his sights on a return to the England team as he at-tempts to put an 18-month period of injury behind him. After a third operation on troublesome shins, the 27-year old Somerset paceman believes he is ready to return to the county scene. He said: "The ultimate aim is to get back into the England side. That might not prove so difficult, judging by recent events, and I am determined to play Test

Football

England's latest crop of talented young-sters will be on show later this month when Roker Park stages an Under-21 clash against European Champloriship hopes Croatia. Croatia were already booked for a Euro 96 warm-up match at Wembley on 24 April and now they have agreed to an Under-21 date 24 hours earlier in the North-East.

hours earlier in the North-East.
PREMIERSHIP AND FIRST DIVISION SUSPENSIONS: Sandings-off: S Lomes (Man
City) I manch from 8th Apri; S Burton (Cystal Palace) I metch from 3th Apri; R Neyter
(West Brom) I metch from 4th Apri; Il Buslock (Nudderslield) I match from 7th Apri;
A Rogae (Mutwell) I match from 9th Apri; S
Sutton (Derzy) I match from 9th Apri; S
Sutton (Derzy) I Monkey (West Harry) I match
from 8th Apri; K Monkou (Southampton) I
match from 8th Apri; K Keene (Man Uth) I
match from 7th Apri; K Cunningham (Warn-

bledon) 1 match from 3rd April: S Coldicatt
(West Brom) 1 match from 10th April: R Ryen
(Huddersfield) 1 match from 10th April: P Reid
(Huddersfield) 1 match from 10th April: P Reid
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Strugens (Charton) 1 match from 6th
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3rd April: J Winders (Luron) 1 match from
3rd April: J Winders (Luron) 1 match
from 3rd April: J Poliston (Norwich) 1 match
from 3rd April: M Barron (Niddlesbruge) 1
match from 9th April: M Balson (Lecesser) 1 Hockey

ADMHA CUP SEMI FINAL DRAW (ties to be played Senday 5 May): Cheimsford v Ciffon; Doncaster v powich. AEWIJA Plate Semi finals (5 May): Bishops Stortford v Worksop; Welton v

NHL: Ronde 3 Hartford 2; Buffalo 8 Montreal 4; Boston 1 Ottawa 1; Edmonton 6 Vancouver 2. EASTERN CONFERENCE

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match from 10th April, 38 Pensity Polints:
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10 Bards (Luter) 2 from 6th April,
10 Bards (Luter)

Rugby Union The Barbarians are to make their first visit to Japan this June to play two metches to raise money for victims of the Kobe earthquake appeal. The Insh Rugby Football Union plan to issue contracts to a 40-player panel in an effort to prevent the likely defection of tailent to Britain. Details have yet to be finalised but players could expect to receive around £30,000 a season. With

BRITISH OPEN (Plymouth) First round: P Dodon (Eng) for Phone (Eng) 5-3: /Parrott (Eng) M Rowing (Eng) 5-3: R O'Sultran (Eng) for O King (Eng) 5-2: N Doheny (Rep of Int to B Pruches (Eng) 5-1: Hegens (Sco) br J Burner (Sco) 5-1: 5 Lee (Eng) bt 7 Griffiths (Wati 5-2).

Squash Sport, Cardiff) Men's first round: P Jornson (Engl bt P Nicol (Sco) 15-13 15-12 3-15-15 15-13; T Hends Engl bt A Banda (Engl) 15-11 15-13 15-9; C Walker (Engl bt G Watte (Can) 15-10 15-3 14-15 15-10, J Borneta (Fra) bt R Dubach (SA) 15-8 15-6 15-7. Wenner's first

Tennis Boris Becker is suffering from bronchi-tis and is doubtful for Germany's Davis Cup quarter-final match against France in Limoges this weekend. Becker, the Ger-man No 1, is due to return to France today after seeing a doctor in Munich. With Michael Stich also unfit to play, Germany's chances will be severely affected.

MINDEPENDENT

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Hall punishes pretenders Badminton Darren Hall brushed aside two promising young England play-

future in ring

ers as he coasted towards his Boxing eighth singles title in the English National Championships at Frank Bruno is still undecided Norwich Sport Village yesterwhether to retire more than two weeks after losing his World Boxing Council heavyweight

Hall, the world No 17 from Essex, needed just 32 minutes to demolish the Hitchin schoolboy Tom Gooden 15-2, 15-3 and going to do. I don't want to the England Under-18 No 1, make a hasty decision, which I will regret later on." Bruno Anthony Clark, 15-1, 15-1 in reaching the last eight. said. "I'm going to take time out.

The former European champion showed no mercy against his novice opponents. "I wanted to win in a hurry." Hall said. "If you ease up, it can lead to

had habits." Hall hardly broke sweat in either match and Clark summed up the huge gulf in class and experience when he said: "Darren made me look a complete id-

Nerves affected 17-year-old

taste of the Nationals against a the last eight.

Gooden as he sampled his first

man who has appeared in 10 successive finals and won on a record seven occasions.

"This was a huge step up for me," said Gooden, who took time off from A-level studies for his first-round defeat. "I'm not used to tournaments with electric scoreboards, line-judges, television lighting and spectators."

Gooden is due to join Clark in England's Under-18 team next month but both teenagers learned how much improvement will be needed for eventual promotion to the senior squad. Hall has already set his sights

on European and Olympic

medals after the nationals. He

is scheduled to meet his

Olympic colleague Peter Knowles in the final tomorrow. Knowles adopted a different approach to Hall. He had been drained by a 90-minute semi-final victory over China's Sun Jun in the Polish Open 48 hours earlier and took it easy in his wins against Kevin Holland and Paul Hinder but still progressed to

WEEKEND POOLS FORECAST

sensi v Leeds	87 Colchester v Cardiff
wises v Aston VillaX	38 Gillingham v Hardepool
wentry v Liverpool2	39 Hereford v Futnem
erion v Botton1	40 Lincoln v Exeter
on City v Man Utg	41 Plymouth & Darlington
ewcestle v QPR1	42 Preston v Doncaster
tim Forest v TottennamX	43 Sountherpe v Torquay
A ALAMANA U Dinainum	44 Wigan v Leyton Orient .

Endsieigh League First Division 10 Samsley v Sunderland . 11 Birmangham v Port Vale 13 Hudgersfield v Southend 14 Ipswich v Reading ... 15 Oldhern v Derby 16 Sheff Littly Wolverhampton.

18 Transferè v Norwich 19 Westord v Portsmouth 20 West Brom v Millwall . Second Division 21 Brendord v Crewe 22 Bristol Rovers v Brighton 23 Burtiley v Bradford... 24 Carlisie v Bournemouth 25 Chesterfield v Stockport. 26 Hall v Warrenbe

17 Stoke v Grimsby ...

27 Oxford Utd v Blackgood

29 Swansea v Wreptharn ... 30 Swindon v Notts County. 31 Valsall v Bristol City 22 York v Pererborough Third Ulvision 33 Samet v Northampt 34 Bury v Mansfield . 35 Cambridge Utd v Rochdale ..

er v Cardiff . v Futnem v Darlington Doncaster

Also pinying (not as coupons): Termants Scot-tish Cup Semi-fixed Aberdeen v Hearts (Nam-pden Park). Playing Sundays Caloc v Rangers. Bell's Scottish League Promier Division 45 *Celtic v Kirryamock (postponed) 46 Falkerk v Rarth ...

47 *Hearts v Rangers (postponed). 48 Motherwell v Hibernian 49 "Partick v Aberdeen (postponed2
"Pools panel will adjudicate, First Division 50 Airdne v St Johnstone 51 Dundee Utd v Dumbarton 52 Dunfermane v Hamilton .

53 Morton v Civdebank...

54 St Mirren v Dundee Second Division 55 Avr v Queen of South 56 East Fife v Berwick 57 Montrese v Sterhousemuir

Johnstone, Prize Liverpool, Sunderland, Crewe, Prize AMANYS: Liverpool, Sunderland, Crewe, Rangers, Sternbousemur. TEM HOMESS: Assenal, Evenion, Newcastle, Crystal Palace, Swinson, Cellic, Motherwell, Dundeb Utd., Dunlemi

2.4 FRANCE 100% WICZERLAND 95% 2.4

Snow reports

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100% 30.3

COUCY

information supplied by Ski Hottou

Bound

Botham nominated as England selector

Cricket

DAVID LLEWELLYN

Ian Botham has been nominated by Northamptonshire and Derbyshire as a potential England selector. The former Somersel, Worcestershire and Durham all-rounder faces four rivals and the field could swell hy a few more, since Surrey intimated last night that they have yet to make up their mind. They have until midnight and the England captain, cur-

The Test and County Cricket Board will announce the election will not take place until possibly a week after Easter. There are two places available, those held last season by Fred Titmus and David Graveney. the other three on the five-man panel being Ray Illingworth, the chairman, David Lloyd, the newly appointed England coach

Atherton.

England all-rounder Botham candidates tomorrow but the say he was happy to pursue the role, but there was still a sense of surprise within the game at his nomination. However, there is no doubt that a large majority of the country would welcome his presence in any role at international level.

There is no doubt that he could impart some of his mag-ic, perhaps even on the coach-

tonight when nominations rently and likely to be, Michael ing front, but the job of selector involves a lot of travelling, a lot Sources close to the former of watching and a lot of time out on the boundary of the game, as it were, looking for the likely lads who have the potential.

Botham's appetite for hard work is not in question, it is necessary only to consider his charitable deeds over the years for the answer, but he has some demanding commitments in the media. Apart from his appearances on the long-running BBC quiz programme, A Question of

Sport, he also works for Sky television, there is a regular column on the Daily Mirror, and his speaking tours, which he has undertaken with Viv Richards and Allan Lamb.

Graveney, who pulled out at the last minute after being nominated for chairman of selectors in opposition to Illingworth, is understood to be standing, having been put forward by Gloucestershire who backed him for the job last year. Botham is one of two names

put forward by Derbyshire, the names of Middlesex's captain, other being their former captain Kim Barnett, while Titmus and Brian Bolus have been put forward as well. Surrey are likely to nominate John Edrich and possibly one other, but officials at The Oval would not be drawn on the issue last night. With an undercurrent of opinion that younger men should be involved at the top level in the coaching and selection of the

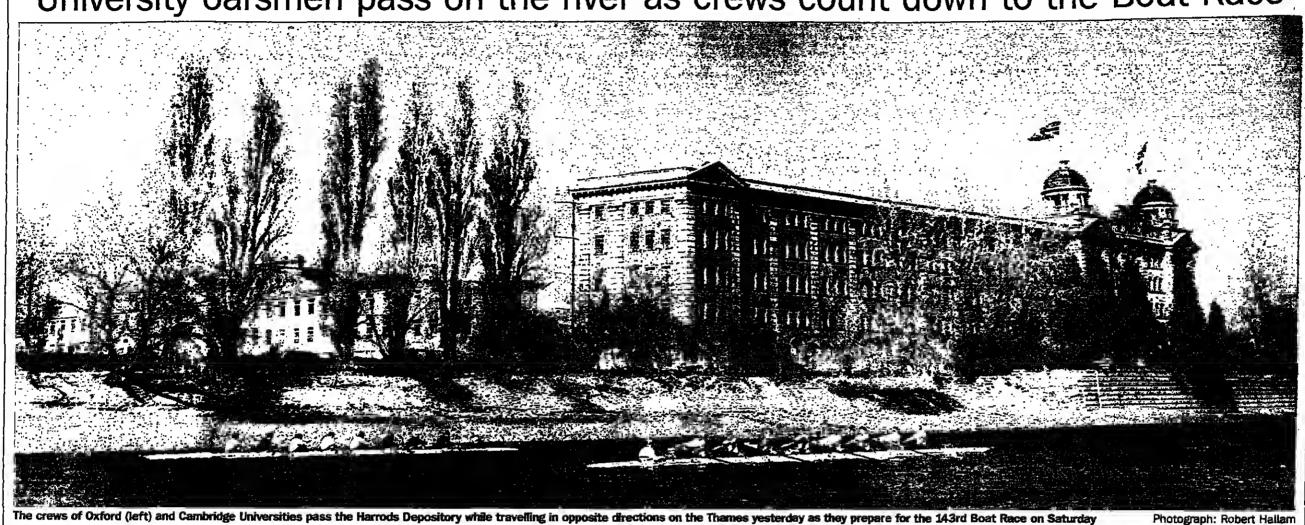
ing that late last night the

Mike Gatting, and the former Essex and England captain Graham Gooch were being touted as possible nominations.

Since Illingworth was distinctly put out by Graveney's original nomination for his post of chairman, he is hardly likely to welcome the former captain's re-entry at a lower level. It would be fascinating to be England side, it is not surpris- a fly on the wall at a selectors'

Graveney to gain election. Graveney had made it plain prior to his withdrawal that had he stood and won the election for chairman of selectors, Botham would have figured prominently in his set-up. Botham has been dismissive of Illingworth's efforts in charge of the national team, and for his part the for-Gloucestershire and Durham mer Yurkshire, Leicestershire and England off-spinner has not held back when assessing Botham's capabilities in that sphere.

University oarsmen pass on the river as crews count down to the Boat Race



Magpies' faltering pursuit of silver Title race Brolin plays the fool

ners will tell v ou as muco. From Worried of Wallsend to Cynical of south Gosforth, the fear is that Newcastle have blown it. Not just with a pop and a splutter, either, but with a

bloody great 12-point hang. They hlame the shortage of service to Les Ferdinand the loss of halance since the dropping of Keith Gillespic, the tinkering with a winning team and makes the winning of Newcasthe lack of "bottle" away from tle's first major championship home. Funded by £45m of his chairman's personal fortune, Kevin Keegan has taken the credit for Newcastle United's four-year voyage of discovery. This season, as he well knows, a mere Uefa Cup place would be no consolation.

"Nothing in life comes easy, and I've always said the first tro-phy will be the hardest to get in."

Tyneside is in turmoil. A glimpse at the letters page of the local As the fog descends on Keegan's Tyneside football revival, Steve Watson, whose late goals proved decisive in the season's lan Potts senses the mounting anxiety at St James' Park

> experience of his own playing Last weekend's post-match days at Anfield. "But I promise you, once it does come in it will be like a magnet, and the others will come thick and fast." It is that belief which drives

both Keegan and his benefactor, Sir John Hall, and which since 1927 all the more crucial. Where once there was talk of the treble, now there is not much talk at all. Usually the most eloquent

and obliging of managers. Kee-gan has taken to slipping silently away from the team's Durham training base or, as he did for the week leading up to Manchester United's recent

THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

25 What is charged for iron

key? (3) 26 Flourish of brass is new in

Foreign article contains

Head of English to settle

back in university (4)

DÓWN

Standard weapon, in a

manner of speaking (8)

Nero, for example, was

Subcontinental pro-

facility (6,8)

can salooo (5)

through in Rome, ruined

boscidean with total recall

Declared doctrine of cardi-

This seat is rare in Ameri-

falsehood (5)

29 Toys with handles rip

apart! (10)

twin seats of Irish kings (9)

that there is an awfully long way to fall, and an awful lot of fans he noted recently, drawing on the harring the press all together.

volley after the horror show at to take down with him. Highbury, where he named the guilty men - Ferdinand, Asprilla. Beardsley, Ginola and Lee - was wholly out of character for one renowned for his affability. Alone among his peers, he is happy to talk up the club's long-term projections, in the be-Magpies to miss out complete-ly, while the dreaded "Mack-

lief that it spreads self-confidence. Where others are loath to back their chances of winnings so much as the toss, the 3-0 beating of West Ham was evidence eqough for Keegan to claim his side would have a genuine chance of winning next year's Champions' League. The inherent danger with raising ex-pectations to such a height is

two previous encounters with Liverpool, Lee Clark and Robbie Elliott were all first-teamers before his return, yet are oow peripheral figures.

What has deepened Type-It is a common trait with side's anxiety is the re-emermanagers who feel they must justify their expenditure, and gence of Sunderland, who many Keegan has spent more than most. So far, in exchange for assumed were condemned to drift forever in the dead-Endsleigh League after their failure to capitalise on the top flight nothing more than the old First Division championship. ticket gifted by Swindon's mis-demeanours in 1990. For the

The one Geordie assured of his place is Peter Beardsley. who, the heretics suggest, is fi-nally showing signs of fallibility. Judging by his omission at Wembley last week, Terry Ven-ables has noticed it too. Out of position and out of sorts, "Peter Pan" has increasingly resembled one of the Lost Boys. For Keegan, the fairy-tale is turning distinctly Grimm.

proved decisive in the season's OVERCIVE Day prank backfired.

Terry McDermott yesterday forecast that Newcastle United's spluttering championship challenge will come alive again at Anfield today.

Newcastle, 10 points clear at one stage, have seen their seemingly invincible title lead turned into a three-point deficit on Manchester United, with Liverpool five points behind. But Newcastle do still have two games in hand over United and as he prepared to return to the ground he and Kevin Keegan graced as players, the Magpies' assistant manager refused to accept a run of one win in five games had been fatal.

"Of course this is a hig game, hut there's one thing for certain,"McDermott said. "If we win eight games no one can do anything about it, and that's the way we've got to look at

things.
"Liverpool will have a hig part to say in the title, but whereas if they don't win they'll

feel it's slipped away from them, Premiership top three

P W D L F A Pts GD Man Utd32 20 7 5 5930 67+29 Newcastle 30 20 4 6 3528 64+27 Nurpoel .31 17 8 8 6027 59+33

Remaining fixtures NEWCASTLE: Today: Liverpool (a). 8 Apr: QPR (h). 8 Apr: Blackburn (a). 1A Apr: Ason Villa (n). 17 Apr. Southempton (n). 29 Apr. Leeds Utd (a). 2 Mary Notim Forest (a). 5 May: Tottenham (h).

o way: follation (f).

BANCHESTER UNITED: 5 Apr. Manchester City (a). 2 Apr. Coventry (b), 13 Apr. Southsmpton (a), 17 Apr. Leeds Und ftt, 28 Apr. Nortegian Forest (h), 5 May: Middlesbrough (a). destrough (a).

LIVERPOOL: Today: Newcastie (h), 6 Apr.
Coventry (a), 8 Apr. West Ham (h), 16 Apr.
Everton (a), 27 Apr. Middlesbrough (h), 1
May: Arsenal (a), 5 May: Manchester City
[a].

we can afford to drop a coupte

of pomts. McDermott was giving noth-ing away about Newcastle's

possible line-up. "Kevin hasn't told the players so he's not going to tell the press. For Liverpool Jamie Redknapp will continue in place of

likely to be missing at the back, Steve Harkness coming in. Thomas, who had been in outstanding form during Liverpool's 20-match unbeaten run which ended at Nottingham Forest, feels that he has been made a scapegoat after being left

Thomas, but Neil Ruddock is

match against Aston Villa. He did not even merit a place on the hench with manager Roy Evans's decision coinciding with the player refusing sign a new deal offered to him

Tomas Brolin has apologised to the Leeds manager, Howard picked up by news agencies Wilkinson, after an April Fool's and relayed around the world.

The £4.5m signing, whose future at Elland Road is in doubt, told Swedish television he was going to play out the seasoo on loan to Norrkoping.

It was meant to be a practical joke, with the Swedish international adding that he

mission for Swedish TV to conduct an April Fool's interview. He has been surprised by the stir it caused in England."

Wilkinson may now have second thoughts about playing Brolin, who has not been a reghoped to play for another team ular in the team, for the match against Southampton tomorrow.

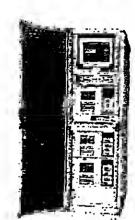
Wilkinson said: "I have spo-

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Hughes called for explanation

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T C A E T L A R
EXHALE FDULPLAY European competition next season is likely be suffer another sethack today when Mark Hughes, their striker, faces a Foothall Association commission to explain his burgeoning disciplinary record.

Hughes, the Welsh interna-

tional, has already missed seven games through suspension and there is a danger that fig-ure could now reach double figures. Any fresh suspension will start on Saturday, and there is also the possibility of a fine, after Hughes' card tally reached the 45-point mark.

ems" lift the First Division title

on a budget roughly equating to Sir John's loose change, would

One accusation regularly

hurled Keegan's way is that he

values his purchases way above

any of the locals: Tynesiders

he torture indeed.

The hearing comes only three days after Chelsea lost their Wembley chance against the double-chasing Manchester United, while the cluh's slump of one win in the last seven Premiership games means an uphill lask to earn a place in the Uefa Cup on their league po-

Hughes' absence over Easter would be an unwelcome set- are believed to be tabling a luback. Chelsea arc at home to Aston Villa on Saturday and then away to Bolton two days later, but it looks inevitable unless he can convince the com-

mission otherwise. Last season, Ian Wright was banned for four games and fined £1,000 after being called up after breaching level three of the disciplinary structure, although he was a month ahead of Hughes. "Mark Hughes will have a chance to speak to the Premiership title triumph.

Chelsea's fading realisation of commission and explain why he has been booked so much," an

FA official said. Mark Ford, the Leeds midfielder, was also scheduled to appear at the FA after reaching 45 points, but his club have a match against Southampton and his case will oow he dealt with in correspondence.

Meanwhile, the Chelsea connection continues when Mick Harford makes a plea in mitigation following an incident during the FA Cup sixth-round draw against Wimhledon at Stamford Bridge last month. Harford verbally attacked Glenn Hoddle, the Chelsea manager, and later gesticulated at supporters following his sub-

the match.

ny Dalglish later this month." Dalglish is Blackburn's Director of Foothall after handing over the manager's post to Ray Harford, following last season's

stitution in the second half. Paul Danson, the fourth official, reported only the latter incident, while Wimhledon will point out that they were the target for verbal abuse throughout the disappointed Michael

Besiktas, the Turkish club,

crative deal to tempt Kenny Dalglish back into management, preparing to offer the for-mer Liverpool and Blackburn manager £500,000 a season and Suleyman Seha, their president, has been quoted as saying: out of the FA Cup semi-final "We will be speaking with Ken-

last Thursday.

· Fa

Prompt spider pose prob-

10 Fleet's power in attack (5)

11. Inhahitant at home by day

to Dickens' Sam (9)

12 Popular name for a pub

13 Engaged in air-condition-

ly, with applicant 19)

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ing in main courts of Ro-

14 Frank taking tea, unusual- 2

Letters of agreement (14)

18 Only cleverest members of 3

society lie in Tintagel's ru-

Feeblest show of energy in 5

ins (14)
22 Butcher has to chop front 4

lem? (10)

6 Principal god of noise

abatement (4)

ty-headed (6)

Strange dialect around

ample (7)

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21

23

mouth of the Nile, for ex-

Butterflies in Severn, flut-

Near land weevil is disas-

trous, experience teaches

Has bound wound of bat-

Home counties with new

Soprano spiteful and emp-

Market town in which to

find Ogham characters, possibly? (5)

16 Bad thing to stumble in

19 Frank born out of wed-

ideas for resort (7)

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